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TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

THE GREATEST NATIONAL Weekly Newspaper In the United States.

FOUNDED IN 1836. TOLEDO, OHIO: THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1896. VOL. LXIV: NO. 11.

Poetry.

THE SWEETHEART I NEVER HAVE SEEN.

O here's to the sweetheart I never have seen,
The one fairest woman—my idol, my queen—
Who thrills me with mystery, calls me her own
And sweeps up the stairs of my heart to her throne,
With a pride of possession so charmingly sweet,
That I smile at the confident sound of her feet.
As I reach out my arms with a yearning that she
Understands as she sinks on my welcoming knee.
With a look so appealing, so fond and serene—
The dear little sweetheart I never have seen.

Here eyes are the eyes of a dove, and her mouth
Is a hint of old Egypt—a dream of the South—
As it lies like an island of rubies a-shine
In a sea of warm lilies—and full of them mine!
No chisel of Athens no graver of Rome—
No master abroad, and no painter at home,
E'er colored a Venus or carved a Faustine
As fair as my sweetheart I never have seen.

Her voice is a lute, and the coil of her arm
Is a cadence of love, as she cuddles her warm
Girlish head on my breast, while her lips seek my own
With a rapture that's only an answering tone—
I have gazed on the beauty—have feasted my eyes
On the fairest of earth, of all climates and skies;
But Greece hath no Helen and Egypt no queen,
To match with my sweetheart I never have seen.

—James Newton Matthews, in New Bohemian.

THE METAMORPHOSES.

"If you pursue and vex me so
Into a convent I will go.
And sweet contentment ever know."

"If you become a nun, 'tis clear
That I, a monk, must soon appear,
To hear the nun's confession, dear."

"If you become a monk, then I
Down to the pool will quickly fly,
And with the carp secreted lie."

"If you become a carp, my pet
A fisherman will spread his net,
And so, you see, I'll catch you yet."

"If you discover me concealed,
I'll be a red rose in the field,
And never to your arts will yield."

"If you become a blushing rose,
I'll be a gardener, I suppose,
And pluck my darling as she grows."

"A gardener, you? Then I, a star,
Will shine upon you from afar,
And laugh to think how vexed you are."

"If you become a star, my sweet,
I, as a white cloud at your feet,
Will follow you until we meet."

"Then let our wanderings suffice;
Here, take my heart, you've paid the price
In leading me to paradise."
—From French Folk Songs.

SLEIGH BELLS.

"I'm afraid your young man is not economical."

"Yes, he is, papa; he asked me to go sleigh riding to-night, and he wants to borrow your cutter."—Chicago Record.

When we go sleighing one can see
She knows what there to appertains.
Without a single word from me
She smiles and takes the reins.

"I heard you were out sleigh riding with Miss De Riche, Spooner. Playing for high stakes, aren't you?"

"Well, I held a full hand on that occasion," said Spooner, thoughtfully.—Detroit Free Press.

"Ethel, were you out sleighing with the armless wonder last evening?"

"Why, papa, what a question! What put such an idea into your head?"

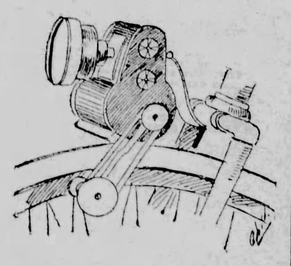
"I saw your escort holding the lines in his teeth."—Detroit Free Press.

Miscellany.

AN ELECTRIC BICYCLE LAMP

Which Will Soon Be Completed and Put Upon the Market.

A unique bicycle lamp, which will soon be put upon the market and bids fair to be a very popular article, is illustrated herewith. A small magneto-electric machine, operated by a friction and band wheel, as shown, furnishes current for a miniature



incandescent lamp. The little magneto has a shuttle armature, the core of which is thoroughly laminated. No commutator is used, but the current is collected from the frame of the machine, one terminal being grounded, and from one of the bearings which surrounds a slip ring in the shaft. Thus the construction is of the simplest. The alternating current is carried to a low voltage, two-candle power lamp, which is enclosed in a reflector of an ingenious pattern. It is a double parabola and concentrates the light at the focus of the outer parabola, from which it is thrown forward in a remarkably powerful beam, which will furnish illumination for quite a distance ahead.

The slightest rotation of the bicycle wheel causes the lamp to glow. Indeed, it would be difficult to ride the wheel slowly enough to maintain equilibrium and not have light. The lamp has a short, stumpy filament, and is therefore not liable to break from any cause except excessive current. The perfected model will admit of ready disconnection of the friction wheel from the tire, so as to render the magneto inoperative, and the transmission mechanism will have a dust shield.

SIX SMART BOYS.

"There are some things in this world I don't understand," said Bobby. "One of them is why small boys have such little stomachs and such large appetites."—Harper's Bazar.

"I don't believe the world is going round all the time," said Jack—"fact, I know it isn't. If it was, when I jumped in the air it would have slid right away from under me."—Atlanta Constitution.

"Whenever we have a big snow storm,"
Says Tommy, "It always makes
Me wish it was powdered sugar, and
A lot of cocoanut cakes."
—Truth.

A boy walked into a merchant's office the other day in search of a situation. After being put through a catechism by the merchant he was asked: "Well, my lad, and what is your motto?"

"Same as yours, sir," he eplied; "same as you have on your door, 'Push.'"
He was engaged.

"How many do two and two make?"
"Six."
"You ignorant little beggar! Don't you know that two and two make four?"
"Oh, yes! I knew that, but I thought you'd beat me down a bit."—Sketch.

Doctor (to page-boy)—Who was the gentleman who called just now?
Page-boy—Smith, sir.
Doctor—What's that? You should say Mister Smith.
Page-boy—Please, sir, I didn't know he was married.—London Judy.

Well Supplied.

"Yes, sir; we have in stock every and anything that you could possibly need," said the young clerk of the new grocery store at Nitville. "We make a specialty of supplying families."

"Wall," ejaculated Joshua Gehaw, gravely, "I want some brown sugar once in while, but with my 'leven kids I shan't need yer tew supply me any family awhile sheer."—Exchange.

Right in Line.

Stamp! tramp! tramp! the boys are marching;
Cheer up, comrades! they will fight;
Solder and from sounding shore to shore
Type You will hear the lion roar,
Wire An' you bet they'll send old England out
seats. o' sight!
—Atlanta Constitution.

SHE ALMOST BLUSHED.

The Startling News That Greeted a Stage Star While Dressing.

"A gentleman to see you, please, miss," said the wardrobe woman, as she pushed open the door of Daisy Fetchington's dressing room, where the bright particular ornament of the profession was just then engaged in making-up for the evening; "a gentleman to see you, miss, and he says he's got most important news for you."

Daisy turned round quickly. "Don't show him in here just yet," she cried hurriedly; "he must wait—don't you see I am only half dressed?"

The woman smiled. "That's all right, miss," she said; "it's only that oldish, blind gentleman wot comes to see you."

"What, Mr. Chumley!" exclaimed Daisy. "Oh, you may show him in; I wonder what he's got to tell me," she added to herself, as the woman disappeared; "shouldn't be surprised if he's going to interview me again, or cut out the speech I've really been making 'em sit up a bit in this last show of mine."

A knock at the door, and Mr. Chumley came thirdly forward, in the slow, hesitating manner of a sightless man. He was an old acquaintance of Daisy's; she was always on good terms with him—for quite apart from the fact that he wasn't at all a bad sort of old fellow, he was well worth cultivating for a very particular reason. A smart, clever journalist, he made a specialty of theatrical interviews, and though his sight had failed him for some years, he managed, with the aid of an amanuensis, to get along pretty easily. To-night he seemed flushed and excited, and he stopped short in seeming embarrassment.

But Daisy did not bestow much attention on him. "Sit down, sit down," she cried, cheerfully. "I hear you've come to see me particularly, eh, you naughty man? Well, well, I shall be at your service directly, but the fact is I'm very much in my deshabille at present, so that if it had been any one else I couldn't have seen them, you know. Now, my dear man, do sit down and make yourself happy, and I'll be ready to talk to you and hear all the news in less than five minutes."

She pushed her companion into a chair and crossed to the glass, and for the next five minutes or so busied herself with the mysteries of her make-up. Then she turned carelessly to her visitor, and for the first time the embarrassment and confusion of his manner seemed to strike her.

"Why's what's the matter with you to-night?" she cried gayly; "you're as mute as a tailor's dummy, and very nearly as stiff. What's all this grand news you've got for me, anyhow?"

"Oh—er—well—er—the act is—er—I hardly like to tell you," he stammered.

"Not tell me? Why, I thought you came to do so purposely."

"So I did," he responded. "The truth is, I—er—underwent an operation last week and—"

"And what?" cried Daisy, an awful suspicion dawning upon her.

"And I came to tell you that I had recovered my sight."—Ally Sloper.

WILL BECOME HIS OWN FATHER.

How Judge Scott Will Be Affected by the Marriage of Harrison.

Ex-President Harrison's brother-in-law, Judge J. N. Scott, of Port Townsend, Wash., at a social gathering the other evening, discovered very unexpectedly that he was about to become his own father. The subject of Gen. Harrison's approaching wedding was being discussed with a party of friends when some one asked Judge Scott if that would not somewhat complicate and tangle up the limbs on the family tree. For a moment the question somewhat stunned the gentleman, and then the party commenced to try and solve the matrimonial problem, and the deeper they went into the subject the more mystified they became, and finally it was given up as an unfathomable tangle. Several of the moves made and calculations formed were preserved and given to the press.

Of the existing relationship Judge Scott is fully informed. It was in trying to locate the limb of his own family tree after the wedding shall have taken place that he became confused. After several hours of deep mental exercise he arrived at these conclusions: "I am now Gen. Harrison's brother-in-law, and Mrs. Dimmock, his prospective bride, is my niece. After they are married, my brother-in-law will become my nephew, and my niece, consequently, will become my sister-in-law. Then, of course, I will become my own brother-in-law, and also my niece's brother-in-law. Now," slowly continued the philosophical reasoner, delving into the future a little deeper, "if this contemplated union should be productive of a claimant for the ancestral hat, he will be my nephew, and also my grandnephew. I will be his uncle and his grandnuncle. Whew!" ejaculated the judge, as he wiped the prespiration from his brow, "that will complicate matters. Just see here. Now, in order to be uncle and grand-uncle to one and the same person, it must necessarily follow that I am my own father, and—oh, d—n the whole thing anyhow. I am not going to rack my brain over other people's troubles," and up jumped the judge, somewhat exasperated.

The logical result of the union was quite astonishing, the judge and the guests sat down to figure it out again, arriving at the same conclusion. Then some one ascertained that Gen. Harrison would become his own nephew and a cousin of his own son, should one be born, and who will, also, be a second cousin to his own brother and his father's nephew. At this point the mental exercise subsided. Judge Scott agreeing to furnish a palatable beverage if his guests would keep inviolate the secret. But it leaked out, and has been given to the press.

AN ASHANTEE BELLE.

She is Graceful and Considered Very Good Looking.

The natives of the Gold Coast are said to be the handsomest of all the colored tribes who inhabit the country around the Blight of Benin. The women are especially good-looking, comparatively, and the habit of carrying loads on the head,

AN ASHANTEE BELLE.

in milkmaid fashion, gives them an erectness of carriage and a grace of movement which travelers praise very highly, says the London Graphic. They do not take over kindly to work, though, the climate having the same depressing effect upon them as upon Europeans. To sit in their market place under the shade of trees, and sell their palm oil, or gold dust, or india-rubber, suits them better.

The Angel in the House.

(On a lady who has wings on her hat at the theatre.)
When pain and anguish wrings the brow,
A minister I angel, thou!
We grant the praise; moreover, "wings"
Upon the stage are useful things.
But when you spread them in your stall,
On hats absurdly broad and tall,
Your mate, perched at a lower level,
Wishes these angles at the devil.
—London World.

The Reason.

Mamma—I hear, Bobby, that you were a very good little boy this morning, and didn't strike Tommy Jones back when he hit you. You must have remembered what I told you about "A soft answer turneth away wrath."

Bobby—I did, mamma; and, besides—

Mamma—And besides what, Bobby?

Bobby—Tommy Jone's bigger than I am.—Harper's Bazar.

Potpourris and Cantaters.

There is a restaurant or dairy up town that keeps an orchestra to discourse neat and appropriate music while the guests struggle with the viands. During the busy hours they play "When the Swallows Homeward Fly" and "Good-by, Sweet Tart, Good-by." The favorite airs with the waiters are, "We Never Speak as We Pass Pie" and "Fare Well and Don't Forget Me."—Exchange.

DRAWS U. S. BONDS.

A NEW YORK ARTIST WHO WORKS THREE MONTHS

Just to Make One Bill for Uncle Sam—Will H. Low and His Work—How It's Done.

In a quiet spot in New York city, little suggesting money, there lives an individual to whom the bond issue and the bringing out of silver certificates and new bills is of more important than to any collection of people or Wall street syndicate.

This is Will H. Low, the star of the government artists and the designer of the new money that will appear upon the street in April.

The making of a dollar bill is to him the work of months, without considering the final engraving of the plate in the Treasury. All the year around he is busy making money, and, though he makes it in a different sense from the money-makers in general, it is no less a business with him.

The getting out of a bond issue is a different matter from the designing of a bill, but it all requires the hand of an artist before the bond is ready for presentation to the public.

Mr. Low requires, when there is a bill to be designed, the commission from the art department of the Treasury. He is engaged by the job, and he is to get up a bill of such and such denomination after an original design. No limited time is given him, but he is to do it as soon as he can. The design takes the longest time.

With a piece of drawing paper before him two feet by one foot, or as large as a good-sized writing pad, the man who makes the money for the Treasury goes to work upon the bill. He thinks of allegorical figures, recalls historical sketches and finally repudiates all and invents a picture from his own head—an original conception.

In the new one-dollar bill that is now being made in the engraving department of the Treasury the design is a figure design. The title is "History Instructing Youth." A female figure points to Youth who stands beside her, the growth of the country. In the distance is the Washington monument and the Capitol, and upon a slab at her

WILL H. LOW "MAKING MONEY" IN HIS FIFTEENTH STREET STUDIO.

feet is the Constitution of the United States.

The drawing for a bill takes three months, if the artist works upon it industriously. Mr. Low once, when rushed with outside work, did a design in two months, but he did not enjoy the work. Three or even four months is none too much time.

The bill is complete when it leaves his hands. It is like a mammoth note and would deceive a color-blind person at a distance. The color is lacking. That is all. It is done in black and white, and when the engraving is made it is printed upon green-back government paper, and the seal is done in deep red. Many of the completed designs are in oil colors, done by the artist, and are exquisite works of art.

The fine lines that an artist must draw can be noted by studying a greenback. Every mark upon it must be made by his hand, and made carefully. If there is a "screw" at the Treasury department, which is a very able and critical one, will reject it; and the man who makes money will have to make it over again.

The recompense for the designing of government bills is very small. It is a great deal less than an able artist could earn at doing other kinds of work. In three months he could fresco a large wall or paint a picture for the academy that would bring in its thousands. But the designing of bank notes is a matter of pride with every American artist, and he would rather do it at a paltry sum than paint pictures for a fortune. Unless necessity compels an artist to paint for a living, he will do bank notes whenever the government shall commission him. The pay is sure and good, but it is no such fortune as great artists get for their pictures. Uncle Sam is not niggardly, but he cannot be expected to pay fancy prices for his currency.

It is only a few years since that great artists began designing bank notes and United States bonds. Formerly a good stock portrait would be made of a statesman, and this picture, embellished with new lettering and ornamented with small designs, would pass for the new design after which the bank bills were printed.

The result of this cheap way of getting money made was that the money of the United States was the laughing stock for foreign bank officials. Persons spending money do not notice the design, but the effect upon foreign governments is better when a really good piece of art work is placed upon our bills. Travelers consider the money of Spain the prettiest money they ever handle, but in a few years they will find United States money worthy a place alongside Spain.

When there is a bond issue, as in the present case, and bonds are issued in what may be called an emergency manner, without ceremony beyond the receiving of bids, the United States does not commonly order a special design for its bonds. The treasury makes a selection from an old engraving, perhaps a picture of a statesman, and sets it in a new drawing, which, being properly lettered and ornamented, answers the purpose of an elaborate design.

When the United States chooses to do this, it is perfectly correct to do so. Few persons see the government bonds, and the engraving department, which is more economical in its inside workings, considers the bond plenty good enough for its limited circulation. In the matter of a bill it is different. A bill passes through many hands. Its average life is two years.

After the design for a new bill is completed it is sent to the treasury for approval. It is discussed, examined critically, compared with previous drawings for bills, and finally sent back with the approval of the treasury. The artist then finishes it up.

After the finished design has gone back from the artist to the treasury the real work begins. The design must pass through the engraving process, and so carefully is this done, and so magnificent is the finished die that it is a matter of months of work for the department. The present new dollar bill, which is expected out in April, has been fourteen months in the engravers' hands, or fourteen months since it was completed by Mr. Low, and it is not turned off yet for the public. The care and time spent upon it give people an idea of the work required to counterfeit a bill. So intricate and elaborate is the new bill that counterfeiting will be impossible.

As the work progresses a proof of the finished portion is sent to the artist who designed it. He notes the finished work carefully, and, if there has been an accident in the engraving, he notifies the government engraving department, and the work is done over again. So it goes on until the bill is finished.

It is a noteworthy instance of the shrewdness of Uncle Sam's lieutenants that never do they allow the artist to see more than a portion of the finished proof. The entire bill, reduced, engraved and printed, he never sees until it is a dollar bill like any other bill in his pocket.

As another instance of Uncle Sam's shrewdness, be it noted that no magazine, newspaper or individual is allowed to copy the design upon a bill in its completeness, and though "the man who makes money" kindly supplied the material for this talk and showed the writer a copy of the original design of the bill, it could not be copied for printing in with this article.

A description of it is all the government allows. Their theory is that if a plate were made for printing a bill in a newspaper it might accidentally fall into the hands of unscrupulous persons who might dispose of it to counterfeiters who would pay a large sum of money for it.

The United States bonds that are exciting so much interest are turned off carefully in the government printing office. Each one must be perfect. If one is blurred, or slighted, or printed crooked, it is destroyed and another one printed in place of it. Each inch of the government parchment and bank note paper must be accounted for, and if an extra piece is taken, either the blurred bond, or a sharp record of it, must be inserted to take the place of the additional piece of paper used. No one can trifle with bank note paper.

When the bonds and bills go to press, as printing them is called, the work of the artist is done. In the case of a bond issue, the printing of the bond is very critical work. Each one is numbered, counted and watched by a staff of treasury officials whose record is above suspicion. When the bonds are turned off, they are tied in packages and given into the custody of a treasury official, who, with an escort, takes them to the man who has bought them. He conducts them in person, as the Queen's crown is taken back to the crown jewels.

The matter of the transfer of the bonds is done quietly. In the last bond issue it is said that no less responsible an individual than Logan Carlisle, a son of the secretary, personally conducted them to the purchaser.

"The man who makes money" is never a rich man, for he makes it for his country and keeps but little himself. But he is necessarily a patriot, or he could not be imbued with the patriotic sentiment that is necessary for the designing of a United States bank note or bond.

TRIALS OF A TRAMP.

"Looking for Work" Among the New Jersey Farmers.

When the night tramp told me that he was hungry and had no money to pay for food or lodging; when he added that he had walked the streets of New York day after day and could get no work; when he grew pathetic and declared his readiness to commit suicide if things didn't change, says the Detroit Free Press, I halted and asked:

"Why don't you get out of New York?"

"Where'd I get to?"

"Go to the country; go over in Jersey. Any farmer will give you your keep for what you can do while winter lasts."

"You never tried it, did you?" he queried.

"No."

"Im sure of that. I have, however, and I know how it works. I land in Jersey City. There's a policeman right there who looks me over and yells:

"'Wot you a-doin' here?'

"'Lookin' fur work.'

"'Skip—git—travel, or it's three months in jail!'

"I gits along up town," said the tramp, and I meets another copper, and he yells:

"'Wot is this I see before me?'

"'An unfortunate man a-lookin' fur a job.'

"'Git—hump—skate! If you ain't out o' town in half an hour it'll be six months in the jug!'

"I gits out o' town and into the country. I sees the cows in the barnyards and the sheep a-gambolin' in the medders, and I hears the farmer whistlin' as he splits fence rails or chops at the woodpile. All is lovely, and I opens the gate and walks in, and a dog as big as a hill throws me down and chaws me up. Then a woman throws a pail of hot water over me, and a farmer comes running with a club and yells out:

"'Durn yer hide, but what d'ye mean?'

"'I'm a-lookin' fur work.'

"'What work?'

"'Any sort o' work.'

"'But that' ain't bin no work in Jarsey sense 1860, and you orter know it! Git up'n fly!'

"Then I goes along about a mile further and sees a feller at his gate smokin' his pipe. He hain't got no milk o' human kindness in his eye, and so I'm passin by when he yells:

"'What's the matter with you?'

"'Nuthin'.'

"'What are ye passin' along here fur?'

"'A-lookin' fur work.'

"'Oh, ye are! Wall, I've got it fur ye! Come along o' me.'

"He's a constable, and he takes me before a court at Elizabeth, and the jedge looks at me and sez:

"'H'm! I see! Young man, hev you got a thousand dollars in your pocket?'

"'No, sir.'

"'Hev you got money in the bank—a farm—own any bonds?'

"'No, sir.'

"'H'm! worst case of total depravity I've seen in five years! So you are a-lookin' fur work—hard work?'

"'Yes, sir.'

"'Work to sweat the color outer your suspenders and make your hair curl?'

"'That's me, sir.'

"'Then I'm overjoyed to know that I kin accommodate ye. Prisoner at the bar, stand up. You ain't a goin' to stand up to a drink, but to a sentence of nine months in the county jail at hard work!'

"'What fur?'

"'Fur leavin' a good thing in New York and lookin' fur work in New Jersey! Remove the cattle!'"

Enter Ye.

St. Peter—Did you work for the Lord?
Happy Hobo—Well, I guess I didn't work for no one else. Beat—Exchange.

Our Serial Story.

THE MYSTERY OF AVENUE D.

WRITTEN EXPRESSLY FOR THE BLADE
BY DAVID LOWRY.

CHAPTER XV.—LOOKING UP A FAMILY TREE.

When Alexander opened his eyes Maxwell was occupied with the papers he had brought from Davis's. He was so intent upon his task that he did not pay any attention to his bedfellow, who watched him turning paper after paper carefully. Once or twice he started involuntarily, whatever the contents of certain of the papers were, that they surprised Maxwell was plain to the watcher.

Two papers in particular engrossed Maxwell's attention; he read them with knit brows, stopping to make brief calculations on a sheet at his elbow.

"Struck a lead?"

Maxwell turned to Alexander quickly.

"I have—no other word fits so well."

"Room for another fellow—on the ground floor, I mean?"

"It depends upon what the other fellow can do," said Maxwell.

"Which reminds me—you have not told me what your business is."

"You think you have an idea, nevertheless; come, what do you say?"

"You are a detective."

"You are not interested in ores half as much as I am, and I never invested a dollar in a claim in Colorado or anywhere else. You start people talking about mines, and directly you ask questions about people, especially Mr. Fitch; he occupies your mind seemingly.

Maxwell laughed; it was true; he had led the conversation from ores to men and successful mine owners pretty skillfully he thought, but there was one who noted it; Alexander had observed him as closely as he was in the habit of observing other people in whose movements he was interested.

"Correct, am I not?"

"You are not far mistaken—in one sense I am a detective. Not a professional detective, far from it. I may as well take you into my confidence; the more that I have reason to think we are distantly related. It struck me on the instant when you spoke of your people. Was your grandfather born in a little town near Belfast, Ireland? Was he not called 'Double Alick,' because he was named Alexander Alexander?"

"Correct."

"He came to New York first—afterwards went to Virginia."

"Correct again."

"Your grandmother's name was Maxwell—Molly Maxwell."

"This is decidedly interesting, go on."

"Your father's name was Thomas Alexander."

"And so was yours!" exclaimed Alexander as he sat up in bed.

"Yes; our fathers were full cousins. I surmised the truth the moment I looked at your card. In fact, I would have banked on it as they say here."

"Shake," said Alexander as he rose extending a hand, "I'll be hanged if I don't think there is something in blood after all, although I always laughed at the idea."

As he donned his clothes hastily, Maxwell added; "My business in brief is similar to that of the man who adjusts claims against a fire insurance company. I have been connected with a large life insurance company many years."

He paused, then continued in a lower tone, "You have heard of moral risks. In fire insurance they are sometimes very great. They are equally great in life insurance."

"I think they are greater," Alexander replied. "Judging merely from the papers they must be very great indeed."

"The papers"—Maxwell smiled, "the papers do not publish one-half the cases; I doubt if they hear of the fourth of the frauds committed. Many cases are settled quietly that the public know nothing of."

"It must be an important matter that brings you out here."

"The most important and interesting case I have any knowledge of. Sit down and I will give you an outline of it as far as I have gone."

Alexander listened attentively; when Maxwell concluded his relative pondered deeply, fixing his eyes on the floor. Then in answer to Maxwell's query, "What do you think of it?" he responded quickly, "It strikes me that a tremendous fraud has been perpetrated—but possibly it is owing to the way you have presented it."

"Since I began this investigation I have discovered facts confirming the suspicions, however."

"You have put a very strong hypothetical case," said Alexander.

"These facts you refer to, did you discover them since you came here?"

"Yes. But I have made discoveries in Bilchester also that reveals circumstances pointing to collusion."

"You speak like a man who is confident—well there is a good deal in that let me tell you. Of course it is constitutional; some people are over-confident; there are others who never express confidence without good reason. I take it you are one of them."

Maxwell smiled at the compliment. "I have never made a mistake in summing up a case—the company has not always succeeded in demonstrating the correctness of my conclusions at the time; subsequent events bore me out, however. In fact, the instances where the company failed to make out a case at the time, really reflected more credit upon me than upon any where the company won in a canter."

"I wish I could help you," said Alexander, "but I set a figure for this quarter that I must reach before I rest. I want to send in orders for two hundred thousand dollars of Paradise alone; I am sure of more than that in the aggregate; in fact, I am ahead, but I would like about twenty thousand more before giving a little time to you. You have excited my curiosity, however, with your confounded story; I'll be thinking of it until I learn how you are coming on. Keep me posted; I'll give you my route—there you are," he added, tossing a paper to Maxwell, who folded it up and placed it in his pocket book.

"Who knows, you may be able to render me great assistance," Maxwell answered.

He reflected that as it was, Alexander would prove an invaluable witness. He could testify to the manner in which Davis's papers came into his possession, as well as to other important facts.

"I judge you have discovered important facts in those papers."

"I have; very important facts. Indeed," said Maxwell, as he lifted the bundle of papers, "I have here enough to make a very big hole in the claim."

"The devil!" Alexander exclaimed.

"There is no room for doubt; it depends now altogether upon the way the case is handled."

"I thought from your looks, as I was watching you, that you had found something."

"When I set out on my journey," Maxwell said, in a meditative manner, "I had no clearly defined aim, or rather plans. But I was impressed from the outset with the notion that I ought to begin in Colorado—that was all. I did not tell you that circumstances led me irresistably to that conclusion. I did not tell you in the hypothetical case I made that the great enterprise referred to was gold mining."

Alexander rose quickly. "That Hiumin-ates the whole subject." He paced the floor two or three times, looking now and then at his traveling companion, then paused in front of him suddenly.

"Now, just as like as not you have met some of the people you are after."

"I have."

"Already—by George!" Alexander paused after taking two or three steps across the room, turned, looked over his shoulder at his room-mate, scratched his chin thoughtfully and said:

"Have I met anybody that figures in this case?"

"You have."

Alexander gazed fixedly upon the floor; then rumpled his hair. "I give it up; I have thought of all the people I have met here, but there is not one that comes anywhere near fitting into your story."

"I am not at liberty to give you any names, or—"

"No, no! Hang it, I don't want any names; it would be more satisfaction to find out; I never was more interested in my life; I want to fix the individual myself. It's either Hipple or Old Bill."

Maxwell shook his head.

"Then I give it up for the present, but I will tell you who it is before the end of another week."

"How will this affect your movements?" he inquired, as he sat down opposite Maxwell.

"I will not be able to accompany Bill's patry longer."

"He will be disappointed; the old fellow seems to think you could point out some of the men who held the coach up."

"Possibly I could; but it is impossible for me to go with the party now."

"What do you propose to do now?"

"I will remain here; I will not go very far from Cripple Creek in any case," said Maxwell.

"Then I will see you again before I leave Colorado. It will not interfere with my plans if I go twenty or thirty miles with the party," Alexander said, as he brushed his hair. "Let us go down to breakfast. Do you know this air gives a fellow an enormous appetite?"

They were among the first at the table. The travelers—now friends and more than friends on account of the strange manner in which they were brought together, sat at one end of the table. Alexander, who was a very wide-awake, spirited and sensible man, with a strong vein of humor that served him in more ways than one, gave Maxwell a running account of his experiences in Colorado that was highly entertaining. Maxwell laughed aloud at the quaint descriptions of men and places Alexander recalled.

Alexander was in the middle of an interesting story when Old Bill entered. Walking up to Maxwell he put his hand on his shoulder.

"We will start soon—waiting for you and your friend here."

"I am very sorry to disappoint you," Maxwell answered, "but it will be impossible for me to go with you. I find that matters of great importance compel me to remain here for the present at least."

"That's bad; I counted on you." Old Bill's chagrin was visible. "However, if you can't, that's the end of it."

"My friend here, Mr. Alexander, informs me that he will give you another day."

"The boys will be glad to have his company, Mr. Alexander's good company all the time."

"Thank you," said Alexander, "and allow me to return the compliment. I will be with you in five minutes."

"Then I'll have your horse ready for you. If you are going to be around here for awhile, of course we will see you, Mr. Maxwell."

"I will be here some days at least," Maxwell replied, extending a hand to Bill who shook it warmly, then strode out.

Maxwell was accompanying Alexander to the entrance of the hotel when a hand was thrust out; the next moment his hand was in a vise-like grip.

"Glad to meet you; don't you know me?"

Alexander smiled at the look of bewilderment that spread over Maxwell's face. But he misinterpreted the cause. Maxwell recognized the rough-looking man with the loud, gruff voice instantly, he was surprised to encounter him there.

"Certainly, why should I forget you any more than you should forget me in such a short time, Mr. Sloan?"

The big man shook his hand again heartily. "By gum! I'm glad to meet ye again."

"Mr. Alexander," said Maxwell, turning to his friend, "this is Mr. Samuel Sloan, of Pollock's Corners, Pennsylvania."

Mr. Alexander shook Mr. Sloan's hand solemnly, saying he was glad to make his acquaintance. Mr. Sloan echoed the sentiment, and at that moment Sloan's horse made its appearance. The remainder of Old Bill's party were in front of the hotel. Bill was explaining that it was impossible for Maxwell to accompany them, when a portly figure blocked the doorway. It was Mr. Fitch.

"How is this, you are not going with them to-day?"

Maxwell answered very deliberately, and in a chilling tone, "My business will not permit it."

"Sorry to hear you say so; it is to be regretted that the business is so pressing these road agents ought to be weeded out of Colorado."

"I quite agree with you; rascals ought to be weeded out of every community." Maxwell waved his hand to the party as they rode away, then turning to the farmer said briskly, "When did you arrive?"

"Got here yesterday. I come out here to look at them——"

"This way one minute," said Maxwell taking his arm. "Come up to my room."

When they were seated in Maxwell's room Mr. Sloan unbosomed himself with as much freedom as if he had known Maxwell all his life.

"Surprised to see me, ain't you? You ain't more surprised than I am to be here in Colorado. Gosh! what a country! They won't believe half of it when I tell them about it at home. I had no more idea of coming out here than I have of going to Africa—not half as much—but the rest wanted me to come, so I finally concluded to try it.

"You heard me tell about them shares I bought. Well, I guess that was what started it. Jim Jillson he got up and told everybody about it how I'd got in on the ground floor, and all that, and it set a lot of them wild. Jillson, he went to work and got up a pool, as they call it—where every young fellow throws in equally, you know; it didn't take him no time at all; got about $2,000 in it. Then the next thing was to find the right place to put the money—so they picked on me. They said I was the man to come out and look over the ground first. That's why I'm so glad to meet you."

"I am obliged to you for the confidence you repose in me," Maxwell replied gravely, continue."

"Well—that's about all there is to tell. I don't know a soul here—the fellows I expected to see ain't around, or—they are off in some other part of the country, I guess."

Maxwell pondered a minute; Mr. Sloan eyed him curiously meanwhile.

"This is your first visit to the West, Mr. Sloan?"

"Never was away from home but once before—the time I went to New York, that I told you about. Gosh! what a big country we've got!"

"Yes, it is a big country," Maxwell replied, and he said to himself that there were the biggest fools in it that were to be found in Christendom; but he deemed it wisest to conceal his estimate of Mr. Sloan's mental resources.

"How much money have you with you, Mr. Sloan?"

"Well, beside my own money, there's the $100 Jillison and the other fellows allowed me for expenses."

"If you will be guided by me——"

"Certainly; I'll do just as you say, Mr. Maxwell."

"Very well; then the first thing I advise you to do is to go to the bank here and buy a draft on New York—don't delay five minutes after you leave me."

"Who are you?" Fitch thundered at last. Again Farmer Sloan pointed to the note.

"What is your name, I ask?"

The farmer's finger still dabbed toward the note. Mr. Fitch drew a long breath.

"Where do you come from?" Mr. Sloan nodded gravely, pointing to the note.

"You are not alone in this—don't tell me that. Who is in with you?"

Again the farmer's finger was pushed in the direction of the note. Mr. Fitch took his handkerchief out and wiped his face, he was perspiring, and very red indeed.

"Once for all I ask you who you are, who wrote this note, and where you came from?"

As Farmer Sloan was moving his finger again, Mr. Fitch jumped up and paced the floor with an expression that alarmed the farmer. Mr. Sloan grasped the side of his chair resolved upon hurling it at Mr. Fitch in case that gentleman contemplated violent action, which seemed altogether likely. Mr. Fitch paced the floor glaring at his tormentor with alternating expressions of fear and disgust. Then he sat down again, wiped his face slowly with his handkerchief, much as a man might use a towel, and said in a lower tone:

"Now, look here; I only ask you one question—who the devil are you?"

As Farmer Sloan's finger traveled slowly in the direction of the note, again Fitch sprang to his feet a second time.

He read the note again, paced the floor, paused and looked at Farmer Sloan as if that individual were a wild animal, then slowly advanced to a table. There were papers, pen and ink on the table. Fitch turned from the table and looked questioningly at his visitor, seized a small book that lay exposed in a drawer, wrote rapidly, tore a leaf out of the book, and held it out to the farmer.

"There! I'm a damned fool!—go! get that cashed at the bank, and go to ——"

Mr. Fitch uttered a word seldom employed in polite circles.

Farmer Sloan took the note from him gingerly, wonderingly, folded it carefully and backed out of the room. Fitch turned slowly, looking after him in a frightened way, then suddenly grew pale with white cheeks. As the door closed after the farmer, Fitch read the note again, uttering a frightful imprecation.

The note read:

"I want six hundred dollars I paid for 2,000 shares of Consolidated Croesus mining stock. Unless the money is paid to me immediately, I will publish in Denver, Chicago and New York papers the original assays of the Eagle and Hawk minues, and the prices paid by Suffolk for them to Tom Davis. Payment will insure silence."

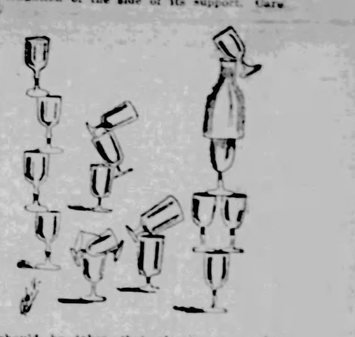
(TO BE CONTINUED.)

WITH GLASSES.

Some Clever Experiments in Balancing.

The accompanying illustration may lead you, at first, to think that it represents several feats that only a skillful juggler can perform, but when we shall have given you an explanation of the apparently precarious positions in which the glasses are placed, you will see that any one with steady nerves, and a little patience, may readily accomplish everything here pictured.

The first thing to do to practice standing one glass upon another in such a way that the axis of the upper one shall be a prolongation of the side of its support. Care



should be taken that glasses as nearly alike as possible be used, and that the table on which they are placed be perfectly level, for even a slight variation from this rule may make a failure of your experiment.

The second exercise consists in balancing the body and foot of one glass upon the rim of another, as shown in the middle figure of the cut. At the left is also seen a way of doubling this experiment, with hardly any additional risk.

Two glasses may also be balanced, side by side, in the manner shown. Their feet must not touch the body of the glasses, but they are simply bedded on their support, and it is strange to see how, in consequence of their exact juxtaposition, neither of them shows any inclination to swerve or to tumble off.

It may be remarked that this latter feat is not so much an experiment in equilibrium as a clever and curious arrangement to dazzle a late-comer in the dinner-table.

Thanks to the exactitude of the geometrical form of your glass, you may, with a little practice and a little audacity, succeed in making stranger superpositions still and in grander style. What we have given will seem to you, after a little while, as mere child's play.

DUKES AND THINGS.

First Clubman—The Duke has handed estates, hasn't he?

Second ditto—Yes. Ended one every time he married, but managed to run though them all. —Puck me-up.

The American Bride—What is the matter, George William?

Lord Narrared, Why, this blooming paper says, deucheknow, that those securities your father gave us are going down! Fuck.

Hojack—What do you mean by saying that he treated you like a lord?

Tomdik—He borrowed five hundred dollars from me.—Puck.

Mabel—Does the Count love you for your money or your beauty?

Violet—Neither; he was struck by the way I played baccarat.—Puck me-up.

Mr. Merton—Is it true that you are going to follow your sister's example by marrying an English lord?

Miss Sheddle—Yes. It is quite true. They come high, but we must have 'em, you know.—Fashion.

"Are you," she finally faltered, "sure, dukey—"

"Can you doubt me?" he asked, intensely.

She shivered.

"Almost everything is obliterated nowadays," she muttered.—Detroit Tribune.

She Had Suspicions.

"Charley," said young Mrs. Tocker, "is this all the money you have?"

"Yes."

"But the bills are all of different lengths and it is all rough along the edges, too."

"But it is good money just the same."

"I know that. And I should hate to think that you were deceiving me. But I overheard you say to that friend of yours who talks about horses so much that you wouldn't take anything but even money."—Washington Star.

A Misunderstanding.

"I say, stranger," whispered a Western man who had strayed into an up-town theatre where the play of Romeo and Juliet was going on, "can't make head nor tail of this thing. What's the name of this play, anyhow?"

"Romeo and Juliet."

"Well

Question Bureau.

RULES.—1.—Real name and address must be written with every question. 2.—Only one question at a time. 3.—Don't ask for addresses of persons, or of firms, nor where to buy or sell anything, for such answers are free advertising. 4.—Don't ask about the reliability of any person or firm. 5.—We reserve the right to reject any question whose answer would not be of general interest; and will answer no mathematical problems, questions of law, etc. 6.—No answers by mail.

Red Lake Reservation.

W. C. H. Beldenville, Wis., asks: "Will the land in the Red Lake reservation in Northern Minnesota, when opened, be sold, or subject to free homestead entry? And what will be the main requirements of a settler in either case? Is it true that squatters and sooners will be recognized?"

The following are the facts we can gather concerning the Red Lake Reservation.

The lands to be opened number 40 townships, and it is estimated that there are about 4,000 quarter sections of agricultural land, which will make room for that number of families.

The land to be opened has all been surveyed.

The land office fee of $16 to be paid down, and the balance in five equal annual payments, at the end of each year, without interest, at the rate of $1.25 per acre.

The money goes to the annuity fund of the Chippewa Indians, who ceded the land to the government in 1863 upon that condition.

It is true that by the treaty of cession with the Indians it was provided that no intoxicating liquors can ever be sold within the territory ceded.

The probabilities of early railroad construction through the territory are good, routes for several lines having already been surveyed.

Of the 40 townships to be opened, 36 of them are either prairie land or land covered with brush or light timber. Pine lands are not open to settlement.

The lands as to fertility compare favorably with those of Southern Minnesota.

The White Earth Reservation is south of the Red Lake lands, and the Eastern tier of townships of this reservation are also to be thrown open for settlement.

The date for the opening has not yet been fixed, but the 1st of May seems to be the time agreed upon, but 30 days' notice will be given by proclamation.

After the proclamation has been issued, settlers will be permitted to go upon the land and make selections, settlement and improvements. Actual settlers only will be allowed to make entry in the first instance at the land office. That is, the rights of actual settlers will not be ignored or crowded out by a mob of applicants for entry on the morning of May 1 at the land office.

Settlers are allowed under the homestead laws to leave their lands at intervals for reasons that may be satisfactory to the land department, but good faith on the part of the homesteader must be shown in order to maintain his rights in a contest.

Improvements and cultivation must promptly follow settlement. A modest shack and some cultivation is necessary, but the raising of a crop is not imperative.

There is no way to secure a map with a detailed description of the land. A visit to the land office at Crookston, or, still better, a personal examination of the land, would be more satisfactory than to take anybody's word as to the character of any section.

Nearly half of the land is north of the diminished reservation, and the balance south of it, each part being in a mass and not scattered.

From a reading of the law it would appear that a full five years' residence must precede the issue of a patent, which would cut out the old soldiers, who can in ordinary homesteads deduct the term of their service in the army from five years' occupation of the land.

The railroad lands in the vicinity of the reservation can be purchased at from $5 to $7 per acre.

A party who goes on the land long enough to show an apparent compliance with the law really acquires no rights; neither does one who enters the land on the presumption that he is not required to reside upon or improve his claim.

The rules of the department are not rigid. Where good faith is unquestioned, failure to comply with the law resulting from causes beyond reasonable control of the claimant will not vitiate an entry.

Comte's "Positive Philosophy."

M. S., Wadsworth, O., writes: "The Duke of Argyll states in one of his books that Comtism will be the religion of the future. Please tell what that religion is."

August Comte was a French philosopher, born 1798, died at Paris, 1857. His system of "Positive Philosophy" is so immense that to give anything like a synopsis of it would fill every line of this issue of The Blade. His first position is that human mind passes through three stages of development: 1, the theological, in which all the phenomena or nature are attributed to the active agency of the gods, or God; 2, the metaphysical, in which the gods give place to the abstract causes called "nature," "harmony," "number," etc.; 3, the positive, in which man admits he knows nothing of causes, and can only refer phenomena to their general laws of existence or succession. Arrived at this stage, knowledge advances through one generalization after another, to a comprehensive perception of the universe as a whole. Hence Comte made a very elaborate order of the sciences, beginning with mathematics and ending with sociology.

Taking up sociology, Comte attempts to lay down the fundamental principles of order and liberty. The first element of order is the family; the second, the community; third, the state, or government. Liberty is the effect of this harmonious organization, and progresses by its development, through the conquest: 1, of material nature; 2, of the lower propensities by the higher intellectual faculties; 3, of the selfish passions by the social affections.

Religion he conceived to be the complete harmony of human existence, individual and collective, which harmony he calls Humanity. Humanity, he says, is the genuine evil and object of all worship. But, as eminent men, such as Moses, Socrates, Mohammed, etc., are manifestations of the "grand being," Humanity, it is not improper to pay them high respect. Accordingly, Comte arranged a formula of the worship of humanity by means of homage and festivals to illustrious, historical characters. As will be seen, he discards entirely the Christian conception of God.

No Leap Year in 1900.

A. M. M., Pattonsburg, and J. M. S., Elberton, Wash., ask: "Please explain why there will be no leap year for eight years? What is done with the six per years hours on the first three years? Is February to lose the day?"

The year 1900 is not a leap year because it is not divisible by 400. Julius Caesar reformed the calendar, which, at his time, B. C. 45, was hopelessly tangled. He ordered that the year should consist of 365¼ days, and that every fourth year the quarter should make a leap day, when the year should have 366 days. But the year really has 365 days, five hours and 49 minutes—11 minutes short of a quarter of a day, and in A. D. 1582 Pope Gregory XIII. found that the days too many had been "borrowed from the future." So he ordered that October 4, 1582, should become October 15, and that thereafter leap year should come every fourth year, except on centurial years, and only on every fourth centurial year. By this arrangement, we add to each year 11 minutes, which we borrow from the future. We more than pay back what we have borrowed by having no leap year on ordinary centurial years, and we take back the overplus by having a leap year on the fourth centurial year. There will be no leap year in 1900, 1800 or 1700 years. An easy rule to remember is this: Every common year is a leap year if it can be divided by 4 without a remainder; any centurial year that is, ending in two ciphers) is a leap year only when it can be divided by 400 without a remainder.

Zwingli, the Reformer.

A. F., Denver, Mo.: Ulric or Huldreich Zwingli, the Swiss reformer and patriot, was born January 1, 1484 died 1531. He was educated for the church, studied in the University of Vienna, in 1506 was ordained, and became pastor of the parish of Glarus. As early as his 18th year his study of the Greek New Testament raised doubts in regard to many of the teachings of the Roman church. In 1516 he withdrew to Einsiedeln, where he took a subordinate vicarship. His opposition to some of the doctrines and teachings of the Roman church grew more decided, and he preached Christ as the only sacrifice and ransom for sin. To the pope's bull, who called in question, he said: "With the help of God I will go on preaching the Gospel, and this preaching will make Rome totter." Zwingli's reformation began before Luther's, and he was not a follower of the latter. On New Year's day 1519, he preached his first sermon in the Cathedral church of Zurich, to which he had been promoted, and from that time that city became the center of the Swiss reformation. In March, 1522, the church service was altered, and some ceremonies dropped. Later in that year, Zwingli petitioned that free way for the Gospels be given through the cantons, and that the imposing of celibacy on the clergy be repealed. Two conferences were held in 1523, and Zwingli's reforms were triumphantly carried. In 1528 Zwingli took part in a disputation at Berne, at the close of which ten articles favoring the reformation were drawn up and signed by a majority of the clergy. The cantons of Berne and Bazel soon united with Zurich in the reformed faith, and public worship was arranged as in the latter. The reformation led to civil war between the reformed and the Catholic cantons, and Zwingli was killed in the battle of Kappel.

Large Estates.

"Ex-," Hemlock Grove, O.: You seem to be under some misapprehension as to the "estates" mentioned in an article on the 5th page of Weekly Blade of April 5, 1894. For instance, the estate of Moses Taylor was accumulated by himself, in the wholesale dry goods trade. He invested his profits in real estate in New York city, and the rapid growth of the city caused it to increase enormously in value.

The Isaac M. Singer estate was made by the profits on his sewing machine patents. He was a very poor man when he invented the needle with its eye in the point. Every sewing machine manufacturer paid him a royalty for the use of this device, as long as his patent lasted, and this made him enormously wealthy.

The Peter Cooper fortune was made in manufacturing glue and gelatine. The Goelet fortune was the result of the raise in New York city property, by which land that was a farm 50 years ago is now covered with city blocks, and is enormously valuable.

Great fortunes in railways, like the Vanderbilt fortunes, are the result of the increase in value of the railways. As the country grows in population, and trade increases, railways become more valuable, of course, like city real estate. All the fortunes mentioned in the article were accumulated in the ways mentioned above, or in similar ways.

We have carefully looked over the Weekly Blade of January 9, 1896, but fail to find any article on any large fortune.

Did Sherman Say It?

H. E., Philadelphia, Pa., writes: "On page 4 of Weekly Blade of Feb. 20, I read, under 'Warlike Paragraphs,' the following: 'In 1887 General Sherman predicted that the most terrible war ever known will take place in this country before the end of the century.'

"Is this saying attributed to Gen. Sherman authentic? I was surprised to hear of it. We hear similar sayings frequently—and sometimes, I will admit, by men of sense, reputation and respectability—though more frequently by malcontents of government, and by those who would have nothing to lose and everything to gain by such revolutions. I write this merely for information. Can you answer in the Question Bureau as to when, where and under what circumstances did Gen. Sherman use the above quoted expression? I would be very glad to know."

We have tried to find authority for the statement, but can not. The collection of "Warlike Paragraphs" was made by one of the editors, and collected from clippings from other papers.

Can any reader throw light on the subject? We are inclined to think it a falsehood. The Populists have for years attributed words to Abraham Lincoln about the "money power" which are absolutely false, and we fancy this has a similar origin.

His Age.

Five Blade Readers, Toledo, say: "A gentleman born on January 22, 1865, contends he is only 30 years old on January 22, 1896. He is seriously in earnest about it. We contend he is 31 years old. Please give us your answer."

He was one year old on Feb. 22, 1866; 2 years old in 1867; 10 years old in 1875; 20 years old in 1885; 30 years old in 1895, and 31 years old in 1896. Count it year by year, and see.

"Swearing In" Congressmen.

S. A. B., Lawrence, Kan., asks: "At what time do the members-elect of Congress take the oath of office?"

The terms of the Republicans who were elected in 1894 began on March 4, 1895; but they were not sworn in until Congress met. The present Congress met, pursuant to the constitution, in regular session on the first Monday in December, and were then sworn in. But if the President had called Congress together in extra session at any time on or after March 4, 1895, they would have taken the oath of office then. This was the case in 1893, when Mr. Cleveland convened Congress in extra session August 7, to repeal the purchasing clause of the Sherman law. The members were sworn in when Congress convened. The same thing is of course true of the Senators.

Washington's Birth.

W. B. M., Smithfield, O.: George Washington was born on February 11, 1732, Old Style. This corresponds to February 22, New Style, and that date is celebrated. February 11, Old Style, 1732, does not correspond to March 4, New Style, and your statement is wrong in that.

Then, in changing the beginning of the year from March 25 to January 1, the year 1732 was simply shortened. It ended on December 31. Hence dates previous to March 25, anterior to that year, were counted as part of the same year, and that from March 25 to December 31. All these things were settled at the time the change was made, and you can rest assured that Feb. 22, 1732, represents the date of Washington's birth, according to New Style.

Qualifications of Cabinet Officers.

H. F. B., Browning, Mo., asks: "Do the cabinet officers, or any part of them, have to be eligible to the office of the Presidency?"

If the President and Vice-President both die, or the two offices are vacated in any other way, before the expiration of the Presidential term, the succession rests in the cabinet, beginning with the secretary of state, then the secretaries of treasury, of war, the attorney general, the postmaster general, the secretaries of the navy, the interior and of agriculture, in the order given. There is any one, however, has not the qualifications required by the constitution for the Presidency, he is not eligible, and the next in order becomes President.

That is to say: The law does not require that all cabinet officers shall possess the qualifications required for a President; but if one not possessing them would succeed to the Presidency, he would be passed over and the next eligible one take that office.

The Comet.

"M. M.," Wanlock, Ill., asks: "How large are comets supposed to be? If the one now said to be approaching the earth should collide with it, what would be the probable effect?"

We know nothing positive about the constitution of comets. The theory generally held now is that the head is an aggregation of solid particles—a heap of stones, so to speak—and the tail is the small particles, probably as fine as gravel and sand. No two comets are of the same size.

The present comet it is going to collide with the earth. No one knows what would be the result if a comet should collide with the earth. Probably there would be a shower of stones from the head which would destroy human life there, but elsewhere no harm would result. It is believed that the earth has passed through the tails of comets several times.

Utah's Admission.

T. D. V., Van Camp, W. Va., asks: "As Utah is admitted, how many members of Congress will there be? Also how much population is necessary for a state or a member of Congress?"

Utah has one Representative and two Senators. The national constitution provides that each state shall have at least one Representative, and also that it is entitled to two Senators. There is no provision of law fixing the population a state must have on admission. The ratio of representation for Representatives, under the census of 1890, is one member of the House for every 173,901 people. The House of Representatives, since Utah's admission, has 357 members. See Question Bureau of Weekly Blade of February 6, answer headed "The Number of Representatives."

Why do you say "member of Congress" when you mean a Representative? A Senator is a member of Congress quite as much as is a member of the House, is he not? We know many people speak of "members of Congress" when they mean Representatives, but it is incorrect.

Strong Vinegar.

G. H., Mason, Wis., asks: "How can I make strong vinegar out of weak vinegar, and how can I make strong vinegar out of maple sap? I do not want to use any acids if it can be helped."

We are unable to give a formula for either purpose. Will some reader who knows answer either or both, for publication?

Electricity.

L. E. P., Grand Ridge, Ill., asks: "Can one really see electricity?"

No. We can see its effects, but not the electricity itself. You drop a stone, and it falls to the ground through the force of gravitation. Can you see the gravitation? Certainly not; only its effect. Electricity itself can not be seen; only its effects. In the electrict spark, or the flash of lightning, it is not the electricity you see, but the vibrations it sets up.

The Blade's "Volume."

W. J. G., Hunters, Wash., writes: "I would like to know how The Blade can be in the LXIVth (64th) volume, when only sixty years have passed since it was founded in 1836?"

A volume of a periodical is not necessarily a year. Monthly periodicals generally have two volumes to the year. In its early years The Blade changed hands several times, and different proprietors, on assuming possession, each began a new volume, to mark his accession. Owing to this, the present volume is the 64th, while this is The Blade's 60th year.

Government Reports.

M. P. S., Alverton, Pa., asks: "Does the United States Congress order published any books or reports for free distribution? If so, will you please give list of names or titles, with directions as how to procure the same?"

Yes, quite a number. There is no regular list of such publications. The act appropriating the money for printing them specifies how many are for the House, how many for the Senate, and how many for the secretary of the department to which the report refers, if it be such a report. Those for Congress are divided equally among the members of the House and Senate. The proper person to apply to is the Representative from your Congressional district.

"Mater Dolorosa."

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"Old Favorites."

A. L. Y., Tioga, Ill.; A. E. M., Carson City, Mich.; T. W., Hubbardston, Mich.; C. B. G., Mill Point, Wa. Va.; L. D. J., Sibley, Ia.; J. A., Shannon City, Ia.: We have over 200 requests for the printing of very many different poems under the head "Old Favorites." We are trying to comply with these requests in the order in which they came. There is no use in sending any more requests, for it will take over a year to comply with those we have on hand. We can devote but very little space to this, as the most of the requests are for reprinting poems which have appeared in The Blade in past years, and it is unjust to old subscribers to take space to reprint things they have already had.

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L. M., Kansas City, Kan.: You don't tell us enough for us to form an opinion. Unless they refer to different property, the last will is the only one that is valid, if it contains a clause revoking all former wills. If it is but a codicil, it governs and modifies the previous wills. Refer the case to a good lawyer.

W. D. and H. A. S., Elizabeth, W. Va.: The explanation is given in the Bureau of Weekly Blade of February 27, under the vision of law fixing the population a state must have on admission." The ratio of representation for Representatives, under the census of 1890, is one member of the House for every 173,901 people. The House of Representatives, since Utah's admission, has 357 members. See Question Bureau of Weekly Blade of February 6, answer headed "The Number of Representatives."

Why do you say "member of Congress" when you mean a Representative? A Senator is a member of Congress quite as much as is a member of the House, is he not? We know many people speak of "members of Congress" when they mean Representatives, but it is incorrect.

Strong Vinegar.

G. H., Mason, Wis., asks: "How can I make strong vinegar out of weak vinegar, and how can I make strong vinegar out of maple sap? I do not want to use any acids if it can be helped."

We are unable to give a formula for either purpose. Will some reader who knows answer either or both, for publication?

Electricity.

L. E. P., Grand Ridge, Ill., asks: "Can one really see electricity?"

No. We can see its effects, but not the electricity itself. You drop a stone, and it falls to the ground through the force of gravitation. Can you see the gravitation? Certainly not; only its effect. Electricity itself can not be seen; only its effects. In the electrict spark, or the flash of lightning, it is not the electricity you see, but the vibrations it sets up.

The Blade's "Volume."

W. J. G., Hunters, Wash., writes: "I would like to know how The Blade can be in the LXIVth (64th) volume, when only sixty years have passed since it was founded in 1836?"

A volume of a periodical is not necessarily a year. Monthly periodicals generally have two volumes to the year. In its early years The Blade changed hands several times, and different proprietors, on assuming possession, each began a new volume, to mark his accession. Owing to this, the present volume is the 64th, while this is The Blade's 60th year.

Government Reports.

M. P. S., Alverton, Pa., asks: "Does the United States Congress order published any books or reports for free distribution? If so, will you please give list of names or titles, with directions as how to procure the same?"

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He Was Completely Blind

Owing to Humor and Sores on His Face and Eyes

Hospital Treatment Failed—But Hood's Sarsaparilla Made Pure Blood and a Perfect Cure.

Alfie Mason

The case related here is by no means a rare or unusual one for Hood's Sarsaparilla to cure. Thousands of children have suffered from foul humors in the blood, and many who have been blind from this cause, have been restored to perfect health and sight by this great medicine. Such evidence as this must convince anyone that Hood's Sarsaparilla is the great blood purifier. It cures scrofula, salt rheum and every other form of blood disease.

"Jersey City, N. J., Oct. 21, 1894.
"C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.:

"Dear Sirs: I am thankful for the good Hood's Sarsaparilla has done our boy. At the age of two years, he caught a severe cold and it settled in his eyes and his face became covered with scabs, which the doctor said was

An Attack of Eczema.

We tried different physicians in Jersey City and New York City but he got little relief. I finally took him to a hospital and his face was termed the worst case the surgeons had ever treated. He was under their care for six months and the eczema on his face was better, but it had become worse in his eyes, and

He Was Now Blind

and could not see his hand before him. Every attention had to be given him as he could do nothing for himself. I had read and heard much about Hood's Sarsaparilla, and made up my mind to try it in his case. After taking the first two bottles we could see a change in his eyes, the ulcers which caused the blindness being less virulent. I was advised to take him to a hospital, but I said I would continue with Hood's Sarsaparilla, and thanks be to it, he soon regained his sight and is now, at six years of age, a

Fat, Strong and Healthy

lad. I hope every mother will take my advice, which is to use Hood's Sarsaparilla for every form of sickness. It will save lots of money, trouble and worry. I speak from experience and I assure you I shall never cease praising Hood's Sarsaparilla." MRS. A. W. MASON, 150 Phillips Street.

Be sure to Get Hood's, because

Hood's Sarsaparilla Is the Only True Blood Purifier

A HEROIC RESCUE.

Three Young Gymnasts Get a Girl Out of a Burning Building.

The rescue of a young woman from the third story of her burning home recently by three young men forms a worthy chapter in the book of brave deeds, says a Sturgeon Bay, Wis., correspondent to the New York Journal. With no other aid than their strength and bravery they constituted themselves a human extension ladder and saved the girl whom the other spectators had shudderingly abandoned to death.

A man who was passing the residence of James Keogh, the banker, at 2 o'clock on the morning in question, saw a bright flame spouting from the chimney of the main section of the house.

After hammering the door and shouting to Mr. Keogh, the discoverer of the fire at last succeeded in arousing the inmates of the house. Mr. Keogh was the first to make his appearance, but his wife and eight children remained in the blazing home. Fire seemed everywhere and the smoke formed a cloud through which the flames gleamed fiercely. Undaunted Mr. Keogh and the man who had awakened him made their way through smoke and flame to the interior of the house.

In two rear rooms on the first floor were Mrs. Keogh, who is an invalid, and four children. Lifting his wife from the bed, Mr. Keogh bore her in safety to the open air. Four times he re-entered the furnace, in each instance returning with a senseless child in his arms. When he appeared with the fourth child his hair, beard and clothing were in flames. As he staggered into the open air his strength left him, and he fell to the ground. Blankets were thrown about him and the child in his arms, but not until both were seriously burned by the blazing clothing.

By this time half the population of the village surrounded the burning house. For a moment it was believed all the inmates had escaped in safety, when screams came from behind the curtain of flame and smoke that obscured the front windows. Almost at the same instant a girl, with hair and night dress aflame, rushed from the front door and fell unconscious at Mr. Keogh's feet.

Then, as if by the action of Providence, the smoke and flame seemed to clear away from the burning structure's front, and the spectators saw a girl leaning from a window in the third story. Her cries for help were pitiful, but there seemed no possible hope for her escape.

There are in Sturgeon Bay three young men who have long prided themselves on the athletic feats they can perform together, the "living chain," the "human ladder," and the "swaying tower" being among their achievements. This trio—Delos Richardson, Harry Melton and Joseph Harrington—were present at the fire. As quick as they realized the situation all three ran to the front of the house. The first and second story windows were directly in line with the window in the third story, from which the now frantic girl leaned. Harrington leaped to the ledge of the first window, and in less time than it takes to relate it Richardson had mounted Harrington's shoulders and Melton was perched on his. By this means Melton was elevated to a sufficient height to gain a firm hold on the inner sill of the second story window, and though the flames scorched his hands he maintained his hold. Richardson grasped Melton's legs firmly and Harrington climbed over both to the second story window ledge. Richardson then pulled himself up over Melton and the latter was then lifted to the ledge beside his companions.

Again a ladder was formed and this time it reached the window where the girl, with marvelous presence of mind, waited for her rescuers, despite the smoke and flame all about her. Melton seized her, and, handing to the window with one hand, successfully lowering the girl to Richardson, who in turn gave her into Harrington's hands. Harrington swung the girl down so that she stood upon the window ledge beside him. All this time Harrington was bearing the weight of Melton and Richardson on his shoulders. The girl safely landed on the ledge, Melton and Richardson made their way to the same place.

Presently, however, through a rift of smoke, the spectators saw Melton lift the girl from the window and hand her to Richardson who in turn lowered her until Harrington could place one arm about her and stand on the window ledge beside him. Then the human ladder tumbled down and the three men and the rescued girl were soon with their friends. Five minutes later the roof of the house fell in.

BRIDES AND GROOMS.

Bride (exasperatingly well)—I'm so sorry, my love. Couldn't I bring something up for you?

Bridegroom (awfully scarce)—No, thank you; I can attend to all that myself.

Husband (airily; they had just returned from their wedding trip)—If I am not home from the club by—ah—10, love, you won't wait.

Wife (with appalling firmness)—No, dear; I'll come for you!

He was borne at 9:45 sharp.—Pick-Me-Up.

Joe—Jack's new wife won't speak to me.
Tom—Why not?
Joe—I got confused at the wedding, and tendered him my sympathy instead of congratulations.

"Why does the bagg[illegible]man handle those new trunks so carefully?" he asked.
"He doesn't want them to look as old, traveled look, because the people who own them are just married, and new trunks are a dead giveaway."—Detroit Free Press.

—Thousands have tested the great building-up power of Hood's Sarsaparilla and have found renewed strength, vigor and vitality in its use.

Making Monkeys of Themselves.

It is claimed that Johanna, the Central park chimpanzee, can write. This will be sure to recall the fact that a great many politicians have made monkeys of themselves with pen and pencil.—Washington Post.

Truly Fugitistic.

Corbett—I see that the manly art is receiving some distinguished members.

Fitzsimmons—Yes; Olney's and Salisbury's fight promises to be as wordy as ours was.—Puck.

HILL'S RHEUMATISM AND GOUT CURE Invented and successfully used for over 30 years. HILL MEDICINE CO., 26 E. 9th Street, New York, N. Y. Send for circular.

STORIES ABOUT THE LITTLE ONES.

More of originality in thought and expression is to be gleaned in an hour's conversation with a child of average brightness than by searching through volumes of modern literature, says a writer in the Chicago Post. The child who coins idioms of his own is an unconscious expositor of the weakness of the language-makers. A few days ago the little son of Dr. Hugh Blake Williams gave the following terse description of the operation of a cable train:

"The gripman pounded the tarn-tarn, an' mamma an' I got on the car. Then mamma gave the conductor a penny an' he pulled the finctum that was hangin' 'round his neck by a strap. When we got there mamma held up her hand an' the conductor jerked the lang-lang an' made the car stop for us."

The same little fellow, who has been taught the uses if not the abuses of prayer, was exiled to his bedroom for a breach of conduct. For several moments he made an eloquent plea for release, but was unheeded. Then followed a long period of silence, after which he summoned his mamma to a conference. His final appeal for commutation of his sentence was in these words:

"Please, mamma, let Blake out, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake. Amen!"

The effect of environment upon imagination is well illustrated by the instance of a city child who, for the first time, saw a shooting-star the other night. Touching his father's arm he pointed his small thumb upward and inquired:

"What's their business?"

After his father had displayed a satisfactory amount of ignorance concerning the design and purposes of the solar system the little fellow remarked:

"I'll tell you what I think about it, papa. All those stars up there are houses an' that shooting-star is a fire engine going from one house to another."

Two little fellows who boarded the Clark street car, near the limits burn, yesterday, were evidently laboring under a severe mental strain. The younger had long yellow curls and was not over four years old. The age of the other was not so easily told. He might have been "old for five" or "young for seven."

They did a large amount of animated whispering and the smaller kept an anxious eye on the conductor.

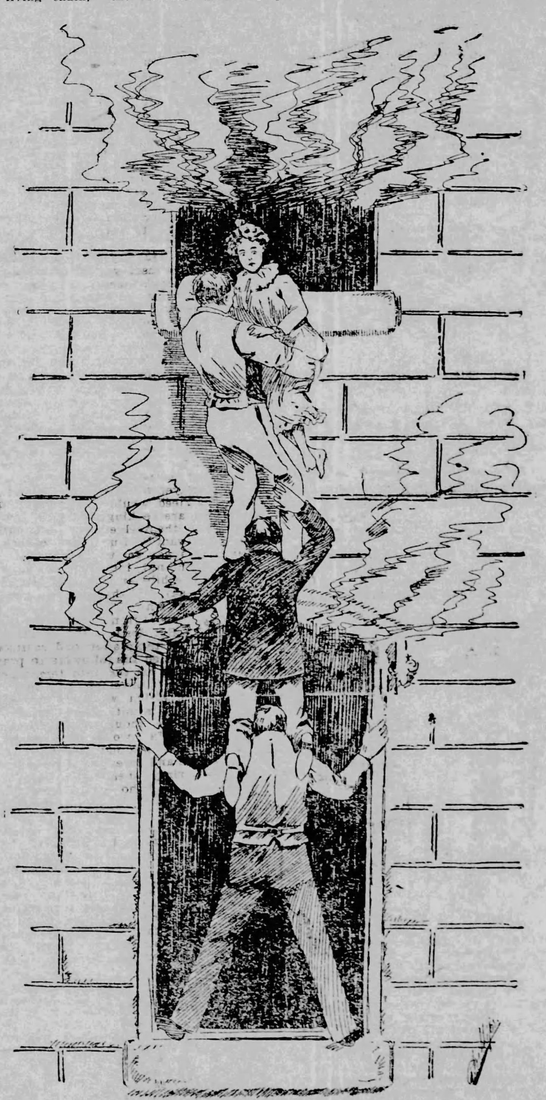
"There he comes, Walter," whispered the little one in curls to his elder brother, as Mr. Yerkes' coin collector approached.

"Keep still!" was the unsympathetic answer of the senior as he glanced indifferently about the car and assumed to be totally oblivious of the conductor's presence.

"Fare," called the latter, halting in front of the little pilgrims.

The lady financier paid no attention to this challenge, but continued to eye the cooing baby at the other end of the car.

"Fare, young man," sternly repeated the conductor, touching the arm of the elder boy. The passengers who had observed the previous movements of the boys felt that this crisis had not been unanticipated and developments were watched with curious interest.



AN UNPRECEDENTED RESCUE.

But they were not prepared for the tragic subtle bit of diplomacy which followed.

"I haven't any fare, sir," answered the spokesman of the pair, locating the conductor straight in the eye.

"But didn't your folks give you any money to pay your fare with?" persisted the conductor.

"Yes," was the ingenuous reply, "but the other conductor didn't charge us anything when we went down to grandma's this morning and we thought you wouldn't either—an' we just went and spent it all for candy at the store."

This closed the evidence for the defense. The passengers manifested their approval and the small financier calmly drew a much-bedraggled piece of paper from the depths of his reefer pocket and began to nibble it while the court made up its decision.

After a moment's hesitation the conductor exclaimed: "Well, son, you're a bird!" and passed on to gather in the remaining fares.

Childish ideas of God teem with unique and startling views of the Creator, and form the most fascinating chapters in past and present contributions to the world's theology.

It is doubtful, however, if the omnipresence of God was ever set forth in more astounding terms than by a little girl of the writer's acquaintance. She had been recently taught that God was always near her and that His all-searching eye took careful note of her every act and thought. This instruction seemed to impress Ethel very deeply and the mother was confident that the lesson would not soon be forgotten. It was not.

Thursday, Ethel and her mamma were walking on Michigan avenue when a dog of uninviting appearance rushed in fiercely upon them. All efforts to "shoo" him away were unavailing. Finally Ethel turned about and delivered the following charge to the dog in tones which struck terror to her mother's heart:

"Go 'way; you naughty little dog!" exclaimed Ethel. "You're too rough to always have God taggin' 'round without havin' you!"

Quite as pertinent to the same grave problem of God's omnipresence is the opinion of another thoughtful little miss who lives in Austin.

"Now, Sadie," she inquired, "is God everywhere?"

"Yes, dear, everywhere," was the answer.

"Everywhere all at once?"

"Certainly."

There was a moment of thoughtful pondering; then the small searcher for the truth exclaimed:

"My! But He must be awful fat then!"

The little son of one of the regular army officers now stationed at Fort Sheridan listened, last Sunday, to a graphic description of how David slew the lion which attempted to encroach upon the youthful shepherd's flock.

When the biblical narrative was finished he looked up and inquired:

"But what did he do with the skin? When papa used to go hunting a the post out West he always brought the skins back and hung them up in the quarters where he could tell stories about them to the visitors."

A little Woodlawn miss not four years of age has a voluminous and variegated collection of dolls and has also developed a genius for distributing her collection over the floors of the flat and leaving it there each night, for her mother to gather up. Not long ago the mother's patience was exhausted on this score and, as she picked up a half-dozen dolls from the carpet of the sitting-room, she said:

"Now, Pet, if mamma finds these dollies scattered about the floor again she will surely give them to the ice man."

Yesterday the little one was afflicted with indigestion. She was silent and downcast for half the day. Suddenly, as her eye fell upon the form of a doll stretched upon the floor, her face shone with the light of a sudden inspiration. Running to her mother she exclaimed:

"Please, mamma, div Pet's tumut to de red man."

How It Must Squeak.

Eli Ridgeley, a pioneer resident of Marcellus, Mich., owns a rocking chair which has been in use for 80 years. For a long time it was the only rocking chair in that region, and was loaned for miles around during cases of sickness.

When a little one is expected in the family how lovingly the parents plan together for its future welfare. They sometimes even forecast its education and career. Does this seem too early to anticipate while the child is yet unborn? It isn't. The child's destiny has already been partly mapped out by Nature according to the disposition and habits of the parents. The best plan a mother can make for the future happiness of her unborn child is to maintain her own cheerfulness and health while her child's undeveloped being is still a part of hers. Her health at this critical period is of tremendous consequence to the little one's whole future existence. Every prospective mother will find direct nourishment, comfort and sustaining strength, in Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It will maintain her vitality both bodily and mental; shorten the period of confinement and make labor easy and almost painless. It imparts strength and elasticity to the organs concerned in parturition, invests the mother with recuperative energy against any after period of weakness and depression, and aids in the secretion of healthy nourishment for the child. It is the unfailing cure of all "female weaknesses."

Dear Doctor—Your "Favorite Prescription," is the best medicine to take before confinement that can be found. It proved so with me. I never suffered so little with any of my children as I did with my last, and she is the healthiest we have. When I began your treatment I could not stand on my feet long enough to wash my dishes without suffering almost death; now I do all my housework, washing, cooking, sewing, and everything for my family.

(Mrs.) Dora A. Guthrie
Oakley, Overton Co., Tenn.

SHE THROWS FITS.

A Great Scheme of a Good-Looking Book Agent in Washington.

There is on F street, says the Washington Post, a firm so prominent in the realm of law, so august as a whole, with members so dignified that wrongdoers tremble at the sight of their door plate.

Last Thursday a little woman with nestling golden curls and cheeks too pink from exposure to cold sought refuge in this office from a biting wind, and extended numbed fingers to a ruddy glow. As the senior partner entered the room from his den in the rear the girl looked up brightly, and then, overcome by sudden seemingly overpowering exhaustion, fell prostrate on the couch on which she was seated.

Judge —— gazed at her in astonishment, as help

Talmage's Sermon.

ALL WE, LIKE SHEEP, HAVE GONE ASTRAY.

We Have Turned Every One to His Own Way—On Him is the Iniquity.

Washington, March 2.—The gospel sends out its gladdest sound in this sermon from the nation's capital. Immense throngs pack and overflow the church to which Mr. Talmage preaches twice each Sabbath. His text Sunday morning was: Isaiah xvi., 6: "All we, like sheep, have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way, and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all."

Once more I ring the old gospel bell. The first half of my next text is an indictment. All we, like sheep, have gone astray. Some one says: Can't you drop that first word? That is too general; that sweeps too great a circle." Some man rises in the audience and he looks over on the opposite side of the house, and says: "There is a blasphemer, and I understand how he has gone astray. And there, in another part of the house, is a defaulter, and he has gone astray. And there is an impure person, and he has gone astray." Sit down, my brother, and look at home. My text takes us all in. It starts behind the pulpit, sweeps the circuit of the room, and comes back to the point where it started, when it says: All we, like sheep, have gone astray. I can very easily understand why Martin Luther threw up his hands after he had found the Bible and cried out, "Oh! my sins, my sins!" and why the publican, according to the custom to this day in the East, when they have any great grief, began to beat himself and cry, as he smote upon his breast, "God be merciful to me, a sinner." I was, like many of you, brought up in the country, and I know some of the habits of sheep, and how they get astray, and what my text means when it says: "All we, like sheep, have gone astray." Sheep get astray in two ways: either by trying to get into other pasture, or from being scared by dogs. In the former way some of us get astray. We thought the religion of Jesus Christ put us on short commons. We thought there was better pasturage somewhere else. We thought if we could only lie down on the banks of a distant stream, or under great oaks on the other side of some hill, we might be better fed. We wanted other pasturage than that which God, through Jesus Christ, gave our soul, and we wandered on, and we wandered on, and we found garbage.

The farther we wandered, instead of finding rich pasturage, we found blasted heath and sharper rocks and more stinging nettles. No pasture. How was it in the club house when you lost your child? Did they come around and help you very much? Did your worldly associates console you very much? Did not the plain Christian man who came into your house and sat up with your darling child give you more comfort than all worldly associates? Did all the convivial songs you ever heard comfort you in that day of bereavement so much as the song they sang to you—perhaps the very song that was sung by your little child the last Sabbath afternoon of her life.

There is a happy land,
Far, far away,
Where saints immortal reign,
Bright, bright as day.

Did your business associates in that day of darkness and trouble give you any especial condolence? Business exasperated you, business wore you out, business left you limp as a rat, business made you go mad. You got dollars but you got no peace. God have mercy on the man who has nothing but business to comfort him! The world afforded you no luxuriant pasturage. A famous English actor stood on the stage impersonating and thunders of applause came down from the galleries, and many thought it was the proudest moment of all his life; but there was a man asleep just in front of him, and the fact that that man was indifferent and somnolent spoiled all the occasion for him, and he cried: "Wake up, wake up!" So one little annoyance in life has been more pervading to your mind than all the brilliant congratulations and success. Poor pasturage for your soul you find in this world. The world has cheated you, the world has belied you, the world has misinterpreted you, the world has persecuted you. It never comforted you. Oh! this world is a good rack from which a horse may pick his food; it is a good trough from which the swine may crunch their mess; but it gives but little food to a soul blood-bought and immortal. What is a soul? It is a hope high as the throne of God. What is a man? You say, "It is only a man." It is only a man gone overboard in sin. It is only a man gone overboard in business life. What is a man? The battleground of three worlds, with his hands taking hold of destinies of light or darkness. A man! No line can measure him. No limit can bound him. The archangel before the throne cannot outlive him.

The stars shall die, but he will watch their extinguishment. The world will burn, but he will gaze at the conflagration. Endless ages will march on; he will watch the procession. A man! The masterpiece of God Almighty. Yet you say, "It is only a man." Can a nature like that be fed on husks of the wilderness?

Substantial comfort will not grow
On nature's barren soil;
All we can boast till Christ we know,
Is vanity and toil.

Some of you got astray by looking for better pasturage; others by being scared of the dogs. The hound gets over into the pasture field. The poor things fly in every direction. In a few moments they are torn of the hedges and they are plashed of the ditch, and the lost sheep never gets home unless the farmer goes after it. There is nothing so thoroughly lost as a lost sheep. It may have been in 1857, during the financial panic, or during the financial stress in the fall of 1873 when you got astray. You almost became an atheist. You said, "Where is God that honest men go down and thieves prosper?" You were dogged of creditors, you were dogged of the banks, you were dogged of worldly disaster, and some of you went into misanthropy, and some of you took to strong drink, and others of you fled out of Christian association, and you got astray. Oh! man, that was the last time when you ought to have forsaken God. Standing amid the foundering of your earthly failures, how could you get along without a God to comfort you, and a God to deliver you, and a God to help you, and a God to save you? You tell me you have been through enough business trouble almost to kill you. I know it. I cannot understand how the boat could live one hour in that chopped sea. But I do not know by what process you got astray; some in one way and some in another, and if you could really see the position some of you occupy before God your soul would burst into an agony tears and you would pelt the heavens with the cry, "God have mercy!" Sinai's batteries have been unlimbered above your souls, and at times you have heard it thunder, "The wages of sin is death." "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." "By one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." When Sebastopol was being bombarded two Russian frigates burned all night in the harbor, throwing a glare upon the tremoling fortress; and some of you, from what you have told me yourselves, some of you are standing in the night of the soul's trouble, the cannonade and the conflagration, and the multiplication, and the multitude of your sorrows and troubles I think must make the wings of God's hovering angels shiver to the tip.

But the last part of my text opens a door wide enough to let us all out and to let all heaven in. Sound it on the organ with all the stops out. Thrum it on the harps with all the strings atune. With all the melodies possible let the heavens sound it to the earth and let the earth tell it to the heavens. "The Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." I am glad that the prophet did not stop to explain whom he means by him. "Him of the manger, him of the bloody sweat, him of the resurrection throne, him of the crucifixion agony. "On him hath the Lord laid the iniquity of us all." "Oh," says some man, "that isn't generous, that isn't fair, that every man carry his own burden and pay his own debts." That sounds reasonable. If I have an obligation and have the means to meet it, and I come to you and ask you to settle that obligation, you rightly say, "Pay your own debts." If you and I, walking down the street—both hale, hearty and well—I ask you to carry me, you say rightly, "Walk on your own feet!" But suppose you and I were in a regiment, and I was wounded in the battle and fell unconscious at your feet with gunshot fractures and dislocations, what would you do? You would call to your comrades, saying, "Come and help, this man is helpless; bring the ambulance; let us take him to the hospital," and I would be a dead lift in your arms, and you would lift me from the ground where I had fallen, and put me in the ambulance and take me to the hospital and have all kindness shown me. Would there be anything bemeaning in me in accepting all kindness?

Oh, no. You would be mean not to do it. That is what Christ does. If we could pay our debts, then it would be better to go up and pay them, saying, "Here, Lord, is my obligation, now give me a receipt, cross it all out." The debt is paid. But the debt is we have fallen in the battle, we have gone down under the hot fire of our transgressions, we have been wounded by the sabers of sin, we are helpless, we are undone. Christ comes. The lound clang heard in the sky on the Christmas night was only the bell, the resounding bell of the ambulance. Clear the way for the Son of God. He comes down with up to the wounds, and to scatter the darkness, and to save the lost. Clear the way for the Son of God. Christ comes down to us and we are a dead lift. He does not lift us with the tips of his fingers. He does not lift us with one arm. He comes down upon his knee, and then with a dead lift he raises us to honor and glory and immortality. "The Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." Why then will a man carry his sins? You cannot carry successfully the smallest sin you ever committed. You might as well put the Appenines on one shoulder and the Alps on the other. How much less can you carry all the sins of your lifetime? Christ comes and looks down in your face, and says: of have come through all the lacerations of these days, and through all the tempests of these nights; I have come to bear your burdens, and to pardon your sins, and to pay your debts; put them on my shoulder, put them on my heart." "On him hath the Lord hath laid the iniquity of us all." Sin has almost pestered the life out of some of you. At times it has made you cross, and unreasonable, and it has spoiled the brightness of your days and the peace of your nights. There are men who have been riddled with sin. The world gives them no solace. Gossamery and volatile the world, while eternity, as they looked forward to it, is black as midnight. They writhe under the stings of a conscience which proposes to give no rest here and no rest hereafter; and yet they do not repent, they do not pray, they do not weep. They do not realize that just the position they occupy is the position occupied by scores, hundreds, and thousands of men who never found any hope.

If this meeting should be thrown open and the people who are here could give their testimony, what thrilling experiences we should hear on all sides! There is a man who would say: "I had brilliant surroundings; I had the best education that one of the best collegiate institutions of this country could give, and I observed all the moralities of life, and I was self-righteous, and I thought I was all right before God as I am all right before man, but the Holy Spirit came to me one day and said: 'You are a sinner;' the Holy Spirit persuaded me of the fact. While I had escaped the sins against the law of the land, I had really committed the worst sin a man ever commits, the driving back of the Son of God from my heart's affections, and I saw that my hands were red with the blood of the Son of God, and I began to pray, and peace came to my heart, and I know by experience that what you say is true." On him the Lord hath laid the iniquity of us all!" Yonder is a man who would say, "I was the worst drunkard in the city; I went from bad to worse; I destroyed myself; I destroyed my home; my children cowered when I entered the house; when they put up their lips to be kissed I struck them; when my wife protested against the mistreatment, I kicked her into the street. I know all the bruises and all the terrors of a drunkard's woe. I went on further and further from God until one day I got a letter, saying:

"'My dear husband: I have tried every way, done everything, and prayed earnestly and fervently for your reformation, but it seems of no avail. Since our little Henry died, with the exception of those few happy weeks when you remained sober, my life had been one of sorrow. Many of the nights I have sat by the window, with my face bathed in tears, watching for your coming. I am broken hearted, and your mother and father have been here frequently and begged me to come home; but my love for you and my hope for brighter days have always made me refuse them. That hope is now beyond realization, and I have returned to them. It is hard, and I battled long before doing it. May God bless and preserve you, and take from you that accursed appetite, and hasten the day when we shall be again living happily together. This will be my daily prayer, knowing that he has said, 'Come unto me, all we that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.' From your loving wife, MARY.'

"And so I wandered on and wandered on," says that man, "until one night I passed a Methodist meeting house, and I said to myself, 'I'll go in and see what they are doing there.' And I got to the door and they were singing:

'All may come, whoever will—'

"This man receives poor sinners still.' And I dropped right there where I was, and I said, 'God have mercy!' and he had mercy on me. My home is restored, my wife sings all day long during work, my children come out a long way to greet me home, and my household is a little heaven. I will tell you what did all this for me. It was the truth that this day you proclaim: 'On him the Lord hath laid the iniquity of us all.' Yonder is a woman who says: 'I wandered off from my father's house. I heard the storm that pelts on a lost soul; my feet were blistered on the hot rocks. I went on and on, thinking that no one cared for my soul, when one night Jesus met me, and he said, 'Poor thing, go home; your father is waiting for you. Go home, poor thing.' And, sir, I was too weak to pray, and I was too weak to repent, but I just cried out—I sobbed out my sins and my sorrows on the shoulders of him of whom it is said, 'the Lord hath laid upon him the iniquity of us all.'

"There is a young man who would say: "I had a Christian bringing up; I came from the country to city life; I started well; I had a good position—a good commercial position—but one night at the theater, I met some young men who did me no good. They dragged me all through the sewers of iniquity, and I lost my morals and I lost my position, and I was shabby and wretched. I was going down the street thinking that no one cared for me, when a young man tapped me on the shoulder and said, 'George, come with me, and I will do you good.' I looked at him to see whether he was joking or not. I saw he was in earnest, and I said, 'What do you mean, sir?' 'Well,' he replied, 'I mean that if you will come to the meeting tonight, I will be very glad to introduce you. I will meet you at the door. Will you come?'

"Said I, 'I will.' I went to the place where I was tarrying. I fixed myself up as well as I could. I buttoned my coat over my ragged vest, and I went to the door of the church, and the young man met me, and we went in, and as I went in I heard an old man praying, and he looked so much like my father, I sobbed right out, and they were all around so kind and so sympathetic, that I just there gave up my heart to God, and I know of what you say is true; I know it in my own experience." "On him the Lord hath laid the iniquity of us all." Oh, my brother, without stopping to look whether your hand trembles or not, without stopping to look whether your hand is bloated with sin or not, put it in my hand and let me give you one warm, brotherly, Christian grip, and invite you right up to the heart, to the compassion, to the sympathy, to the pardon of him on whom the Lord hath laid the iniquity of us all. Throw away your sins. Carry them no longer. I proclaim emancipation to all who are bound, pardon for all sin, and eternal life for all the dead.

Some one comes here to-day and I stand aside. He comes up three steps. He comes to this place. I must stand aside. Taking that place he spreads abroad his hands, and they were nailed. You see his feet; they were bruised. He pulls aside his robe and shows you his wounded heart. I say: "Art thou weary?" "Yes," he says, "weary with the world's woe." I say: "Whence comest thou?" He says: "I came from Calvary." "I say: "Who comes with thee?" He says: "No one; I have trodden the winepress alone." I say: "Why comest thou here?" "Oh!" he says, "I came here to carry all the sins and sorrow of the people." And he kneels. He says: "Put on my shoulders all the sorrows and all the sins." And, conscious of my own sins first, I take them and put them on the shoulders of the Son of God. I say: "Canst thou bear any more, O Christ?" He says: "Yes, more." And I gather up the sins of all those who serve at these altars, the officers of the church of Jesus Christ—I gather up all their sins, and I put them on Christ's shoulders, and I say: "Canst thou bear any more?" He says: "Yes, more." Then I gather up all the sins of a hundred people in this house and I put them on the shoulders of Christ, and I say: "Canst thou bear more?" He says: "Yes, more." And I gather up all the sins of this assembly, and put them on the shoulders of the Son of God, and I say: "Canst thou bear them?"

"Yes," he says, "more." But he is departing. Clear the way for him, the Son of God. Open the door and let him pass out. He is carrying our sins and bearing them away. We shall never see them again. He throws them down into the abysm, and you hear the long reverberating echo of their fall. "On him the Lord hath laid the iniquity of us all. Will you let him take your sins to-day? or do you say: "I will take charge of them myself, I will fight my own battles, I will risk eternity on my own account." I know not how near some of you have come to crossing the line. A clergyman said in his pulpit one Sabbath: "Before next Saturday night one of this audience will have passed out of life." A gentleman said to another seated next to him: "I don't believe it; I mean to watch, and if it doesn't come true by next Saturday night I shall tell that clergyman his falsehood." The man seated next to him said: "Perhaps it will be yourself." "Oh, no," the other replied, "I shall live to be an old man." That night he breathed his last. To-day the Savior calls. All may come. God never pushes a man off. God never destroys anybody. The man jumps off, he jumps off. It is suicide—soul suicide—if the man persists, for the invitation is, "whosoever will, let him come;" whosoever, whosoever, whosoever!

While God invites, how blest the day.

How sweet the Gospel's charming sound;
Come, sinner, haste, O! haste away

While yet a pardoning God is found.

In this day of merciful visitation, while many are coming into the kingdom of God, join the procession heavenward.

Seated in a church was a man who came in who said: "I don't know that there is any God." That was on Friday night. I said: "We will kneel down and find out whether there is any God." And in the second seat from the pulpit we knelt. He said: "I have found him. There is a God, a pardoning God. I feel him here." He knelt in the darkness of sin. He arose two minutes afterward in the liberty of the gospel; while another sitting under the gallery on Friday night said: "My opportunity is gone; last week I might have been saved; not now; the door is shut." Behold the Lamb of God who taketh away the sin of the world." "Now is the accepted time. Now is the day of salvation." "It is appointed unto all men once to die, and after that the judgment!"

Recent Literature.

Readers desiring any further information whatever about these volumes will please address the publishers, whose address is given in every case, and not inquire of The Blade. We do not deal in books.

History of Monetary Systems is a valuable book by Alexander Del Mar, M. E. It is a record of actual experiments in money made by various states of the ancient and modern world, as drawn from their statutes, customs, treaties, mining regulations, jurisprudence, history, archæology, coins, nummulary systems, and other sources of information, covering as may be readily seen a wide area of information. The volume was published last spring in England, where it received a warm welcome. Mr. Del Mar's fitness for such work is well known. He has given fifteen years to research among great libraries and coin collections in Europe on the subject of the history of money and finance. It is a timely work and one which, at the present time, cannot fail to find many readers, not only for its intrinsic interest, but because there is today so much questioning upon these subjects. The volume is published by Charles H. Kerr & Co., 175 Monroe street, Chicago.

The American Book company, of Cincinnati, O., have just added to its list of books Swisher's sSystem of Vertical Penmanship, which consists of five books, each 7x8½ inches, a convenient and economical size. Copies are given for thirty pages, and, by an ingenious device, space is provided for nearly double these pages by the insertion of sheets cut to allow two full pages of practice for each set copy. The copies are clear and distinct, and the author has profited by the English, German and Austrian, as well as the American, experiments with this rational system of penmanship. Full directions and explanations to pupils and teachers are given on the covers.

The Paying Guest, by George Gissing, is a very amusing little story about a girl who left her home and went into a family to board, where she made all sorts of trouble, but in the end everything was pleasant as a June morning. Dodd, Mead & Co., New York City, are the publishers.

Dainty Iniquity, by Margaret Granville, is a feverish, morbid, unwholesome story in which the heroine starts out with the assertion that she will kill a man. G. W. Dillingham, Chicago, is the publisher.

Poems by Ernest McGaffey is a handsomely printed volume of poems which have various subjects. The first eighty pages are devoted to Songs and Lyrics; then come Warp and Woof; Foam Wraiths and Driftwood; My Chapter, and in Sunset Lands. The latter are graphic song sketches of Western scenes and they are full of music. The verse lover will read and enjoy this little volume to the utmost.

Published by Dodd, Mead & Co., New York City.

The Child Voice in Singing, by F. E. Howard, is a timely book regarding the voice of children and its training. The author speaks from the standpoint of experience and very clearly. He does not believe in the use of the so-called chest-voice for children, certainly not for young children, and he has illustrated with great care the methods which may be used to secure the use of the proper tone. There is also an excellent chapter upon vowels, consonants, pronunciation, etc., which, together with many other things in the book, will commend it to those who are interested in the adult voice as well as those who may be only engaged in teaching children. The book is an exhaustive treatise, in its way, upon a subject which has hitherto received very little attention, but which is of great importance. We recommend it to the attention of teachers, singers and others. Edgar S. Werner, New York City, is the publisher.

Siegfried the Mystic, by Ida Worden Wheeler, is a story of psychic phenomena. The central figure is, of course, the character which names the book. His end and aim is to better his fellow townsmen's condition by inducing them to be better, stronger, braver, truer, and more kind. The second important character is Jose Phinn, a psychic, who is taught clairvoyantly and clairaudiently by spiritual entities that there is no death. Herbert Lord, Siegfried's disciple and friend breaks with his father because he cannot conscientiously accept his father's business views; and he starts co-operative schemes of his own. George Martin, a money-making genius, seems to be endowed with the golden touch, for his every business venture turns a stream of gold into his coffers. He wins, too, the woman of his choice, although she had been assigned by her foster-father to another. The story is entertaining, and will give pleasure to many who care naught for occultism and psychic manifestations. The moral trend of the book may be perceived from the fact that it teaches that love is three-foid in its nature—physical, mental and spiritual; that perfect love is a blending of these three into one sweet whole, and that for this love alone is there an immortality; that the intellectual may enjoy physical love, the spiritually enlightened demand a still more refined and sympathetic companionship; that married infelicities are due to the fact that the married know each other externally but not internally; that thought is responsible for all bodily ailments; that the discomforting circumstances of our lives are the sequences of either willfully or unwittingly mistaken thoughts that have hardened into false beliefs. The Arena Publishing Co., Boston.

Alden's Living Topics Cyclopedia is a cyclopedia of topics to date and is full of regulars on all recent events in the world's progress. Mr. Alden has published a great deal of "cheap literature," but his name is not associated with "trashy literature." He, in fact, has been too much of a literary philanthropist for the public upon many occasions to be good to himself. He has too often given his readers all the profits of his painstaking work. How he can make 500 pages of such well-arranged literature for 50 cents is hard to understand, but he does it, and that is all that the public needs to know. He gives the most for a little of any one we know. John B. Alden, New York City.

Cornelius Nepos, by Thomas B. Lindsay, is virtually a new book rather than a revision. The material of former editions has been recast and enlarged. The text has been thoroughly revised, and the notes and vocabulary entirely rewritten. The grammatical references have been placed at the foot of the text-page. In the marking of long quantities the authority of Marx is followed throughout. The text has over fifty illustrations and a fine double page map of the Roman Empire, Greece and the Chersonesus. The dates of all important events are given in the text. The notes are accurate and explain all difficulties not giving mere translations without hinting at their sources. The English-Latin exercises have been rewritten and cover the full text of the twenty-five Lives. These exercises, while easy and forming connected sense, give thorough drill on special or difficult constructions. Published by The American Book company, Cincinnati, O.

In the Eclectic English Classics come to the Blade the following: The Tragedy of Macbeth; The Tragedy of Hamlet; Southey's Life of Nelson; Lowell's Vision of Sir Launfal; Coleridge's Ancient Mariner, and Burke's Conciliation with the American Colonies. American Book company, Cincinnati, O.

A complete Manual of the Pitman System of Phonography, by Norman P. Heffley, comes to The Blade. This book aims to provide an improved, easily acquired, progressive, systematic arrangement of the subject. It is the outgrowth of twenty years' practice and teaching of phonography, and embodies many new and valuable features gained from this experience. American Book Company, Cincinnati.

Another good work is Elementary English, by Robert C. Metcalf and Orville T. Bright, both educators and familiar with the needs of the young. From the same publishers comes a new series of Modern German Texts and Hober Als Die Kirche, by Wilhelm Von Heillern, edited for school use by F. A. Daner. American Book Company, Cincinnati.

A Self-Denying Ordinance, by M. Hamilton, an English story in which is a great love of a fair young English girl for a man utterly unworthy of her, but who clings to him to the end. It is very well told and farms one of the Town and Country Library of D. Appleton & Co., New York City.

The Religion of Hope, by Philip S. Moxam, is a handsome volume containing seventeen sermons preached during the pastorate of the author in Boston. They are plain, clear, practical sermons, beginning with "The Religion of Hope" and ending with "The Way to Heaven." They are thoroughly evangelical and avoid controversial and dogmatic discussion. They cannot fail to be helpful to the reader. Roberts Brothers, Boston, are the publishers.

The Memoirs of an Artist is an autobiography by Charles Francois Gounod, brought down to the time of the first production of his opera Faust, supplemented and rounded off by some charming letters from this master to his friends. In these memoirs the reader discovers that not only was he great in music but he possessed literary ability and a genius for painting as well. These memoirs will prove an inspiration to the artist, whether musician or painter, and be a delight to all lovers of nature and vital literature; in short, the work is a classic, throbbing with warm, human feeling, elevated by an exalted art, and irridiscent with fresh, wise, and sparkling aphorisms, the light of whose truth will shine throughout the eternal hereafter. They are published by Rand, McNally & Co., Chicago.

In the Windermere Series comes Mary Magdalen, by Edgar Saltus, author of The Pace That Kills, etc. This is the story of the Magdalen written with all the wealth of language which characterizes this writer. He has woven a fascinating tale of the beauty, the shame and the repentance of this historic character. It is published by the United States Book Co.

In the Belmore Series is An Excellent Knave, by J. Fitzgerald Molloy, author of A Modern Magician, etc. It is a story of love, of a hidden crime which was charged to an innocent person, but the story ends well. Cassell, Coryell & Co., New York, are the publishers.

Divisions in the Society of Friends, by Thomas H. Speakman, is an old book for some years out of print and one cannot but wonder why it was not allowed to remain so. It is controversial and written in a bitter search, and surely will do no good, but rather harm in that it will only stir up strife. J. B. Lippincott company, Philadelphia, publish the volume.

Stanhope of Chester, by Percy Andres, is issued in the Globe Library. It is a story full of incident, of tragedy and one to hold the reader. Rand, McNally & Co., Chicago, are the publishers.

Results Tell the Story.

A vast mass of direct, unimpeachable testimony proves beyond any possibility of doubt that Hood's Sarsaparilla actually does perfectly and permanently cure diseases caused by impure blood. Its record of cures is unequalled and these cures have often been accomplished after all other preparations had failed.

Hood's Pills cure all liver ills, biliousness, jaundice, indigestion, sick headache.

DECEMBER WEDS MAY.

Strangest and Happiest Couple in the United States.

Los Angeles county, California, possesses the strangest and happiest couple in James Rogers, aged 73 years, and his child wife, Ida Nelson Rogers, aged 14 years and 8 months, daughter of Robert Nelson, formerly of San Dimas.

"Youthful James," as he is called, is a Buffalo man, who enjoyed, as a young man, association with "Old Hutch," as the Chicago board of trade man is familiarly known. From Chicago Mr. Rogers became an Ohio banker and legislator.

At these various points he married and became the father of seven children and numerous grandchildren. It was after the death of the second Mrs. Rogers that

THE GROOM. THE BRIDE.

her husband moved to the rejuvenating state of California. There, amid the vines and cranges of his daughter's plantation, on the foothills of San Dimas, he met his present bride, Ida Nelson. Ida used to carry her father his dinner on the San Dimas estate, and on her way was apt to meet old Mr. Rogers. Such is the fatality of life! The neighbors observed that Grandpa Rogers took a heap of notice of little Ida Nelson. That was grandfather's way, so they thought.

In July Mr. Rogers told his daughter that the air agreed with him better up where the Nelsons lived. So he went there to board. In October his family received the formal notice of his engagement to little Ida Nelson. The junior Rogerses argued, implored, expostulated. Meanwhile little Ida Nelson was shopping in Los Angeles for her bridal trousseau. They were married in January. Mr. Rogers bought a little orange plantation among the foothills, and Mrs. Rogers has done her back hair up and has let out all the tucks in her dresses in order to look older than her step-grandchildren.

For Throat Diseases, Coughs, Colds, etc., effectual relief is found in the use of "BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES." Price 25c. Sold only in boxes.

SPOKES AND TIRES.

"Do you really think one commits a sin to ride a bicycle?"

"Well, I've seen bicycle riders who were far from upright."—Detroit Tribune.

In Liverpool the other day a man was knocked down and run over by a bicycle. Scrambling to his feet he began to abuse the rider. "Sir," he shouted, "I want to tell you that you are no gentleman—er—excuse me, madam—miss," as he found himself talking to a bloomerite. "but, anyhow, I was right."—London Paper.

She—Since Folsome took to bicycling I suppose he is often seen on the road.

He—Yes; I saw him there five times within a mile the other day.—Yonkers Statesman.

Why time glides so swiftly
All history shows,
That the reason of this
Is by cycles it goes.
—Bay City Chat.

"Mine has been a long and faithful service," remarked the Bicycle to the Bloomer Girl.

"Yes," replied the Bloomer Girl to the Bicycle, "you ought to be retired."—To Date.

Miss L. Toe—I hear that the Rev. Mr. Tawker has the cyclemania, and will preach on the wheel next Sunday. I wonder where he will find a text to preach from.

Mr. E. Yett—Probably in the Sermon on the Mount.

Bicycle Enthusiast (to friend)—That was a great bicycle exhibition; Superb! grand! a tribute to the enlightment of the age.

Friend—It must have been. I hear that every one who entered took a wheel in with him. I suppose you know where they carried their wheels?—To Date.

SHOT THE MACHINE.

A Sport Who Couldn't Win Determines No One Else Shall Lose.

Considerable excitement and some amusement were recently caused in the Garden City billiard hall in Chicago when a stranger in the place, says the Chicago Chronicle, after investigating several nickels in a slot machine and receiving no return, drew his revolver and fired four bullets into the contrivance. He then leisurely put his weapon back in his pocket and walked away.

Several men watched the stranger deposit his nickels, and say he put nearly $1 into the machine. Three times the horseshoe fell, which should have brought a winning, but it contained nothing. The third time it dropped the stranger shook the machine, but it did not give forth anything.

"Your scss can't win here," said the stranger, turning to Bert Miller, who is in charge of the place, "and I'll make that robber wish he had never been born."

At the same time he drew a revolver and sent four bullets into the machine.

The Sunday School.

Teaching About Prayer.

LESSON II, MARCH 15, 1896.

Golden Text: Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.—Luke 11: 9.

(Luke 11: 1-13. Memory verses: 9, 10.)

Read Luke 11: 1-54.

1. And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.

2. And he said unto them, When ye pary, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.

3. Give us day by day our daily bread.

4. And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

5. And he said unto him, Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves;

6. For a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him?

7. And he from within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee.

8. I say unto you, Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth.

9. And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

10. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

11. If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?

12. Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?

13. If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

Illustrative Applications.

Lord, teach us to pray (v. 1). Most of us think that God would only be as ready to give us good things as we are to ask for them, we should soon be provided for. But, in fact, it would be our ruin, if we were to have prompt answers to the prayers we are constantly tempted to proffer to God. "We know not how to pray as we ought," and our first prayer ought to be, "Lord, teach us to pray;" while our second one should be in the same line, "Lord, withhold from us the answers to such of our prayers as we ought never to have offered."

When ye pray, say Father (v. 2). To call God "Father" is to suggest that we are children, and that, in the very nature of things, we can not know what is best for us so well as our Father knows, and that our interests are safer in his hands than they could be in our own. Yet we are so accustomed to use the word "Father" in our approaches to God in prayer, that we all unconsciously use it as if we had a right to tell God what is best for us, instead of asking God to tell us what is best for us. One of our chief dangers in prayer is, indeed, the danger of coming to God as to one who is to serve us, rather than as to one whom we are to serve. Therefore, "when ye pray, say 'Father.'"

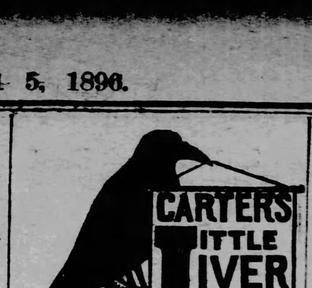
Give us this day our daily bread (v. 3). What we used yesterday will not supply our to-day's needs. Nor can we feed to-day on what we hope to have to-morrow. To-day's duty must be shown by to-day's wisdom. To-day's weakness must be met by to-day's strength. To-day's temptations are to be resisted through to-day's grace. Unless we receive to-day's blessing to-day, we are as helpless as if there were no blessing in the universe. And since we must depend on God for a blessing day by day, why should we worry because we have nothing laid up for to-morrow? There are a great many prayers offered for next week's bread, or for next year's bread. The idea of having to repeat this petition of the Lord's prayer with a full sense of its fitness and need would be dreadful to disciples who are seeking to pile up riches so as to put themselves and their children "beyond want." But Jesus teaches that this is the right way for us to pray.

Bring us not into temptation (v. 4). Once in a while an over-confident Christian will say, "If the Lord will keep me from other sins, I'll keep myself from stealing," or "from lying," or "from murder." But Jesus, after He had Himself been in temptation and realized its force, counseled his followers to pray always, "Bring us not into temptation"—of any sort. It is very easy to undervalue temptation which we have never subjected to; it is not so easy to say that temptation we should surely resist, if it did come. Who would have picked out the forward, zealous, devoted, defiant, forewarned and foreamed Peter as the lying, swearing, sneaking coward in an emergency? Who would have thought that David, with his early pastoral life of purity, and himself a man after God's own heart, would have been guilty of adultery, treachery and murder? If there is any meekness or any sin just now most repulsive to us, and most against all the promptings of our better nature, let us never say, as we hear that some one else is disgraced through that transgression, "Well, there is one sin I am proof against!" Rather let our prayer be then, in fresh earnestness and sincerity, "Bring us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil."

Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will arise and give him (vs. 8). A man, it is true, ought to be ashamed of himself if he will not get out of bed to lend a loaf of bread to his neighbor as an act of friendship. But the man who wants the loaf of bread for a hungry guest ought to be ashamed of himself, if he stops calling till he gets it, whether his neighbor is fast or slow in responding. "Just you stick to it, and keep yelling," was the pithy advice of a street peddler to the youth whom he put in his place for a few hours. And, after all, the successful men are commonly those who will take no for an answer. "Bayonets seldom cross," is a maxim in war. That is, it is rarely the case that two bodies of men are so equally matched that neither yields when the other presses forward with unflinching determination. One side or the other gives way at the approach of cold steel. So, all through life, the struggle for the supremacy over want or over wrong is often simply a question of persistence and endurance.

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you (v. 9). It is true that God knows our needs; and that, so far as we can see, he might give these things whether we ask them or not. But he has commanded us to pray for them, and his promise of giving them is conditioned on our praying. If we fail to get them, on whom, then, rests the blame? God likewise conditions our attainment in spiritual knowledge and grace on our seeking and striving. If we want greater spiritual blessings, we must determine to have them; and we must press in their pursuit with all the dead earnestness which characterizes men who want earthly possessions, and who get them because they will have them.

How much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him? (v. 13). We ought always to realize that God is better than men—kinder and more loving to his children than they are to theirs. But do we? There are fond mothers, who resolutely cause pain or grief to their darlings by forcibly administering some unpleasant medicine, or by taking away some dangerous plaything, or unwholesome article of food, while they are unable to explain their ground of action to the little ones. They know that they are prompted in this by truest love, although to their children they may, for the present, seem unloving. Do those mothers never wonder how God can be influenced by love to them, in causing them pain or grief, by what he gives, or by what he takes away, while he yet fails to make full explanation of his course? If so, is there no suggestion in their thought that God is less loving and wise than an earthly parent? God gave the most precious treasure of his universe to secure the presence of the Holy Spirit in the heart of every believer in Jesus who would ask for this indwelling presence. If the Holy Spirit has not a temple in our hearts, God will send him to be with us forever, if we desire it, and ask it in the name of Jesus.—H. Clay Trumbull in Sunday School Times.



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The orange farmers of California, at an expense of $20,000, have imported a "herd" of bugs of a new species, by means of which they expect to exterminate other bugs, which have been feeding on the orange trees and impairing the crop more each year. The new bugs are

THE IMPORTED BUG (Magnified).

cannibals of the most voracious type. They eat other bugs when they can find any, and when they can not they eat each other. On account of this latter characteristic it was found very difficult to import them. Box after box was sent on succeeding ships from Australia, only to be discover that when the vessels arrived here the little creatures had exterminated themselves. Finally, however, a few hardy ones, under the principle of the survival of the fittest, reached America without being devoured, and were turned loose in the orange groves. The scheme is now meeting with great success. The "lady" bug of this new species, it is said—so prolific are they in bearing young—in six months becomes the proud grandmother of 375,000,000 buglets.

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NATURAL WATER WORKS.

Sala's Description of His First Visit to Niagara Falls.

This story of George Augustus Sala is told by himself, says the London News. When he was sojourning in the United States some thirty years since, the publisher of a popular magazine waited on him one day and asked if he was willing to write him an article of sixteen pages, for which he offered a very handsome remuneration.

"The subject?" inquired Sala.

"Niagara," was the reply.

"Good heavens!" exclaimed the English journalist, "I have been there, but what can I possibly tell your people about the falls that they don't know?"

"You can tell us," replied his visitor, "how they impressed you. You see, our people are never tired of hearing how our great sights made you strangers sit up."

"Agreed," said Sala. When his visitor had gone he sat down to write, telling in his decisive fashion how he contrived to prevent a smart Yankee from monopolizing a corner in the railway car, and how he lost his portmanteau and found it again, all of which suggested telling a little story or what once befell him at a custom house on the Continental frontier which again reminded him of a story of his father-in-law and the old Duke of Wellington. And so his facile and diverting pen rattled on, till he began to think it time to get to business, and, therefore, launched into a

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 1896.

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KAFFIR CORN.

So many subscribers of The Blade have written to ask us where to obtain Kaffir corn—they wishing to plant some for experimental purposes—that we have arranged to furnish it to subscribers, on the terms mentioned in the advertisement on the fifth page of this issue.

There is no money in this offer for us. We do not desire any profit out of it. It is done merely to benefit those of our subscribers who wish to try this new forage plant, which is so highly commended. The Blade's old subscribers know that we are constantly making offers of this kind, for their benefit, which save them more than the cost of subscription. We trust a goodly number of our farmer subscribers will try Kaffir corn, and report their experience with it in The Blade's columns.

EXCELLENT SEEDS FREE.

On the 7th page of this issue we publish an offer of garden seeds to the subscribers of the Weekly Blade, of which we believe thousands will be glad to avail themselves. Read it carefully, for you get the best quality of seeds actually free of cost, if you send a subscription or a renewal at the same time.

REMEMBER—This offer is open only to those who remit $1 for subscription or renewal, after this date.

The seeds have been grown in Minnesota, and hence the plants will be hardy and strong in any climate. No reader of The Blade in the United States lives in so cold a region that these seeds will not give full satisfaction. Per contra, those living further south, and hence in a warmer climate, will find these seeds most excellent. They will produce more vigorous plants than seeds grown in warmer latitudes. Read the offer carefully. You never had a better opportunity to get first-class seeds. It pays to get the best seeds of the best varieties, for the yield is larger and the product better.

OUR BATTLE PICTURES.

Do not fail to read our offer of splendid battle pictures for renewals or new subscriptions to the Weekly Blade. It will be found in the "Publishers' Column," the first thing on the fifth page.

NOTICE particularly that this offer is ONLY to those who send us $1 for a subscription or renewal, after this date. The pictures are splendid. They are fine enough to ornament the walls of the most magnificent private residence. They are all reproductions of oil paintings, are large in size, and accurate in historic detail. Read the offer carefully, and avail yourself of it.

SECTARIAN SCHOOL APPROPRIATIONS.

The House of Representatives last week struck out of the Indian appropriation bill the items for the support of sectarian schools among the Indians on the government reservations. For a number of years a portion of the membership of the House has been endeavoring to have this done, but this is the first time that success has crowned the effort.

The principle is absolutely sound, and the only one in accord with the entire separation of church and state, embedded in the national constitution. It is utterly and entirely wrong that the money of the people, obtained by taxation, should be used for any purpose wherein any church is concerned. Especially is this true of the schools. It has taken the utmost watchfulness for a century of the national life to balk the constant efforts of overzealous supporters of some church organization to get aid from the public treasury for churches, or church schools, or some other thing under church control.

This effort is radically wrong. Wherever public funds are applied to purposes of education or charity, the institution benfited should be under the control of the state, and no church should have the least voice in its expenditure. We have yet to make a great many people understand that education and charity do not involve religion. In the case of the Indian schools, if any church desires, from motives of philanthropy or propagandism, to establish missions and schools among the Indians, let it clearly understand that it must depend upon itself for the money to maintain them, and that it can not have a dollar of money from the government. The effort to cut off these sectarian appropriations has been going, as before remarked, for years: and we believe all the churches are now entirely supporting their schools among the Indians except the Roman Catholic church. It should follow the example of the others, and take care of its own enterprises.

The Pittsburg Commercial Gazette publishes Presidential preferences covering Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio. Pennsylvania is for Quay, if Quay is a candidate, but McKinley is a strong second choice. Of course Ohio is for McKinley, and so is West Virginia in the event Elkins is not in the field, and Elkins says he is not a candidate.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat remarks that "at the head or tail of the national ticket Senator Quay would be in the wrong place, but at the head of the national committee he would be in the right place." The Globe-Democrat always had a remarkably level head.

Governor Evans, of South Carolina, recommends an improvement in the quality of dispensary whisky. He is getting ready in case the governor of North Carolina makes the historic remark.

A new map of the world, just issued in London, marks northern Greenland and all the rest of North America near the pole as a British possession. Has gold been discovered up there?

The Allison boom does not seem to be able to soar beyond the boundaries of Iowa.

Proclamations won't put down the revolution, Gen. Weyler.

RESUBMISSION DEFEATED IN IOWA.

On February 27 the Iowa House of Representatives defeated, by a vote of 52 to 41, the proposition to pass a joint resolution resubmitting a prohibitory constitutional amendment to a vote of the people. The 41 votes in its favor were all Republicans; the 52 votes against it were made up of 35 Republicans and 17 Democrats.

The history of the prohibition legislation of Iowa is interesting. After years of effort the legislatures of 1880 and 1882 agreed to submit a prohibitory constitutional amendment to the people. On June 27, 1882, it was put and carried by nearly 30,000 majority. Then came a fight in the courts, resulting in the ruling by the Supreme Court in two hearings against the regularity of the adoption of the amendment. It was declared not to have been legally adopted.

Then the Republican party, being in the majority, undertook in several legislatures to carry out the will of the people by supplying legislation to take the place of the constitutional amendment. This became so unpopular in certain parts of the state, particularly in the river counties and those where there was a large foreign population, that the Republican majorities in the state gradually dwindled down to nothing. In 1889 the Democrats elected Horace Boies governor, tied the lower house and maintained a deadlock lasting six weeks. They came very near defeating the re-election of Senator Allison, and if it had not been for the hold-over senators they would have done it. In 1891 the Democrats re-elected Governor Boies, and also elected their entire state ticket and a majority of the Senate, the lower House being Republican.

In 1893 the Republicans adopted a different policy on the liquor question, leaving the matter entirely with the legislative districts. On this platform, which was fiercely assailed as a backward step by the prohibitionists, both in and out of the party, the Republicans elected Frank D. Jackson governor by more than 30,000 plurality. The Prohibitionists made as hard a fight as they could, and there was a Republican prohibition state convention and organization. The weakness of the issue was then made manifest, for the Prohibitionists polled but 10,349 votes for Bennett Mitchell, their nominee for governor, indorsed by the prohibition Republicans.

The present mulct law was hastily passed at the close of the last session of the legislature. It is in effect a high license, local option law, with severe regulations imposed upon the saloon. A resolution was also passed at the same time for the submission to a vote of the people of a prohibitory constitutional amendment. This resolution, of course, had no legal force, for one legislature cannot bind a succeeding one to enact any given legislation. The mulct law could have been passed without such a resolution; it was done only to silence clamor against the act.

The mulct law has worked satisfactorily to the majority of the people, and has been the means of improving the moral tone of many communities where before there was no regulation whatever of the liquor traffic. It is in force in almost every part of the state where the prohibitory law could not be enforced, the only exceptions being where counties are required to have the consent of 65 per cent of the voters to put the law in effect.

Last year General Drake was elected governor by the Republicans by more than 60,000 majority, and the legislature elected then is almost unanimously Republican. The Republican platform was silent on the liquor question, and it did not enter much into the campaign.

The vote in the House is recognized as putting the question out of the way for some time. The resolution will probably be brought up in the Senate very soon, and there is no prospect that the result will be different from that in the House. As it requires two legislatures to submit the question to a vote of the people it will be four years before it can possibly get a hearing, and the general opinion is that it will now disappear from sight in this state as a state issue. The mulct law will be amended as experience indicates it should be, and prohibition will remain in force in all the counties and towns that want it. That is the present status. The mulct law does not repeal prohibition, but simply allows a majority of voters in cities of 5,000 population, or 65 per cent of the voters in any county, to suspend the operation of the prohibitory law and put the mulct tax law in operation. This law has been sustained by the Supreme court.

The friends of absolute prohibition are, of course, indignant, and declare their purpose to keep up the agitation. That is all right, if they agitate in an effective way. But to ceaselessly clamor for an amendment is time and effort wasted. The right method is to educate up the people of the towns and counties which have adopted the mulct law. Open a campaign of education against liquor, not on politics; go down among the people who drink, and get them to consider the evils of the practice; educate them up to a higher level, and they will be willing to destroy the saloon and

Pulverize the Rum Power.

FEBRUARY 29.

Saturday last was the last "leap year day" in the nineteenth century. We shall not have occasion to date our letters "February 29" for the next eight years—as the year 1900 is not a leap year. The next one will be the year 1904. Most people forget—and it is no wonder, since the status just described can occur but once in 100 years—that the rule for leap years is this: Every common year is a leap year which is exactly divisible by 4, and every centurial year which is exactly divisible by 400. The year 1900 is a centurial year, but not exactly divisible by 400; hence it is not a leap year.

To add one day in every four years makes the average year a little longer than the true solar year. The omission of three leap years in every four centuries corrects this error very nearly, though not quite. The average calendar year is still 22.38 seconds too long, which only amounts to a day in 3,866 years. This is not of much consequence to us, certainly, and we may be well content to let our remote progeny enjoy the luxury of dropping the 29th day of February in the year A. D. 5448.

Free silver is not growing among Western Republicans. Note that the ten Republicans from Missouri voted solidly against the free silver substitute for the bond bill.

The Republicans of Crawford county, Pennsylvania, want to please everybody; they passed a resolution endorsing Quay, and then elected a St. Louis delegate pledged to McKinley.

This Pingree potato business is ruining the market. Here are Michigan tubers selling for eighteen cents a bushel.

Secretary Morton is not inconvenienced by the cold weather. Congress is making it warm enough for him.

Spring is coming. The base ball columns are becoming prominent in the newspapers.

THE TARIFF BILL DEAD.

The gang of free silver conspirators in the United States Senate—or at least that portion who masquerade as Republicans—are directly responsible to the people for the defeat of the Dingley emergency tariff bill, and to their Republican constituents for betraying them by defeating Republican legislation.

Note the facts:

The present Democratic tariff law is a failure as a revenue producer. The expenditures of the government are steadily in excess of the receipts. A large portion of the greenbacks used to draw gold from the treasury has been used to meet current expenses; the gold thus drawn out was replenished by the issue of bonds, thus putting the government in the position of issuing bonds to meet ordinary expenses.

The House of Representatives, with its large Republican majority, realized that the imperative need was to increase the revenues—to give the government enough money to meet its current expenses. This is good Republican policy. The Dingley bill was prepared in accordance therewith, and would add $40,000,000 a year to the revenues. The House promptly passed it, and sent it to the Senate.

The free silver men in the Senate held up the bill. They kept it in committee for weeks while the country was demanding its passage. They prepared a free silver substitute for it in committee and reported it back to the Senate, which body finally recommitted it. There it stayed, and it began to develop that these thugs were determined to keep it there.

Yesterday the venerable Senator Morrill, of Vermont, the father of the first protective tariff bill of the war period, moved to take up the Dingley bill. On that motion 22 Republicans voted aye; 22 Democrats, 6 Populists and 5 alleged Republicans voted no.

Mr. Morrill then declared that the tariff bill is dead, and noted the fact that the Senate has not a Republican majority. This brought Teller, of Nevada, to his feet, and he voiced a bit of buncombe to the effect that he and his "silver Republican associates could not be read out of the Republican party."

Mr. Teller is wrong. He and the other four Senators alluded to read and voted themselves out of the Republican party. They voted with the Democrats against a Republican tariff measure. They violated their obligation of honor to support the declared policy of the Republican party. They are traitors and should never again be recognized by the Republicans of the country. Their place in history is in the same category as Benedict Arnold and Andrew Johnson.

A DEMOCRATIC SPLIT.

The Washington correspondent of the Louisville Courier-Journal says that Cleveland is determined to make a fight for an explicit declaration for sound money in the next Democratic platform. No thick-and-thin utterances, no straddles of any kind, meet with favor in his eyes; and he will also oppose the nomination of any trimmer at the head of the ticket. With such a platform and such a candidate he believes the Democrats may win, "as the Republicans are determined to temporize." The correspondent quotes Mr. Cleveland as having discussed the matter with his friends and fully made up his mind.

We may remark right here that the Republicans in national convention assembled will not "temporize." The tail is not going to wag the dog. The Republicans of the free silver at 16 to 1 persuasion are not numerically strong enough to control the great majority of the party, which is against the cheap money heresy expressed in terms of silver as it was against cheap money in greenbacks.

But the bulk of the Democratic party of the South and West—and the South is that party's stronghold—is for free silver. The national convention of that party at Chicago will have a much larger percentage of "free silver or bust" delegates than will the Republican gathering at St. Louis. And there is always, among Democratic leaders, a tendency toward demagogy in handling an issue which finds its support among the less educated portion of the voters—a tendency which leads them to adopt a heresy of that kind in the hope of winning success thereby.

The Democratic delegates from New England and the East—in fact, most of those East of the Mississippi and north of Tennessee and Virginia—will follow the President's lead for sound money; but the free silver faction will have a majority among the remainder. If Mr. Cleveland and his henchmen can force the adoption of a sound money plank and a sound money candidate, the result will be a split in the party. The experience of 1860 will be repeated. There will be two Democratic tickets and platforms—one for sound money and one for free silver.

Per contra, if the free silver men are in the majority at Chicago, a split is probable on the part of the sound money Democrats. The plan of seceding if you can't have your own way is dear to the Democratic mind; and the chances are good for a secession of the minority wing from the national Democratic powow this year.

THE SEAL QUESTION.

The illegal sealing in Bering Sea has been for years a shame and a reproach to the United States government. It has dallied, and negotiated, and used millions of yards of red tape, and all to no purpose. Canadian seal poachers have pursued their thievery, in spite of threats and protocols. One year our revenue service took a number of these thieves in, and stopped their plundering for one season. Then the capture of the sealers was made the subject of a grave "arbitration," which resulted in the award of a little less than half a million dollars' damages to the Canadian sealers, in compensation for the seals we prevented them from stealing from ourselves! Diplomatic absurdity could hardly go further.

The House of Representatives last week passed, without debate, a bill introduced by Mr. Dingley, and it is to be hoped it will go through the Senate at once.

Mr. Dingley's bill provides, in effect, that if Great Britain shall not at once and in good faith join in the protection of the seal herds from Canadian thieves, and that, too, before the opening of the present season, then the secretary of the Treasury shall have all the seals killed while at their breeding-grounds off the Pribyloff islands, before they start on their journey out to sea, to become the prey of the Canadian thieves.

This will settle the sealing question forever, by exterminating a most valuable fur-bearing animal. It is a crime against the world to do this; but the Canadian poachers are rapidly accomplishing the same thing, and the extinction of the fur seal will merely be hastened. In place of allowing a dozen years for the Canadians to destroy the animals, it will be done at one fell stroke.

The right course should have been adopted years ago—to declare all seal-stealing an act of piracy, send war vessels to Bering Sea, capture the sealers and hang each captain and crew to the vessel's yard-arms, and then burn the vessels themselves. A little of the same spirit that was displayed in the Venezuelan matter would have saved the fur seal.

THE WOOL DUTIES.

In the effort by the present Congress to increase governmental revenues by amending the Democratic tariff law, the friends of the sheep-raising industry find a difficulty confronting them. The McKinley law gave to the producers of wool an equitable rate with that which was placed upon woollens and worsteds. But when the Wilson law was patched up, the wool producers felt that they had got the worst of it. And now that necessity seems to compel as a temporary method of relief, a measure simply providing a horizontal increase over the Wilson law rates, the wool people naturally feel that it will retain the objectionable features of the act, and will not give them the equitable rate which the McKinley law furnished.

Their dissatisfaction lies in the belief that the Dingley tariff bill provides a greater protection to the wool manufacturers than it does to the wool growers. The bill, as it passed the House, provides that there shall be levied on all wools, which are not free of duty, a rate equivalent to 60 per cent of the duty fixed by the McKinley tariff law, and that on woollens and worsteds there shall be added to the ad valorem rates of duty which the Wilson act now imposes, 60 per cent of the specific rates of duty which the McKinley law placed on this class of goods; and on carpets, all of the specific rates fixed by the McKinley law, in addition to the ad valorem rates of the Wilson law.

It will be remembered that the ad valorem rates which were placed on woolens and worsteds by the Wilson law as "compensatory rates," were very much criticised at the time of the passage of the bill, as giving the woollen manufacturers a greater protection than was proper, in view of the fact that wool was made absolutely free. Now that these alleged excessive "compensatory" rates are retained, and 60 per cent of the McKinley rates added both to wool and woolens, it is argued by the wool people that the manufacturers still retain the advantage which was obtained when the Wilson law was substituted for the McKinley law.

Unless the friends of the measure are able to persuade the Senators representing the wool-producing states that they are mistaken in this belief, it is probable that at least a portion of them will vote against the bill, and thus prevent its becoming a law. Colorado, Montana, Wyoming, Nevada, Utah and California are much interested in the wool question, to say nothing of Ohio, and prefer waiting until they can get a McKinley ratio between wool and woollens, which they say is the only fair one.

BUSINESS AND FINANCE.

The trade of the country is slowly making progress toward healthier conditions. The improvement is shown by the increase of 18.5 per cent in the total clearings of last week. The government finances are improving, the receipts are slowly increasing with the improvement in business, and the gold reserve is up to about $125,000,000, owing to the new bond issue. The export trade is reviving a little, and business failures are not so numerous. There is dissatisfaction in the labor field, and the possibility of strikes is an unfavorable factor, though there has been none really serious as yet except that of the clothing makers, which labors under the disadvantage of being untimely.

Money is growing easier in the great financial centers because of the completion of the new loan. Call money closed in New York on Saturday at 3 per cent. Time money showed much more ease during the week than for any time since December, and many new lenders have come into the market with funds, loanable for nearly any period desired by borrowers. The demand is fair, but borrowers hold for a 3 per cent market. Quotations closed Saturday at 3 per cent for thirty to sixty days, 3½ for ninety days to four months, and 4 for five to eight months.

The exports of gold from New York for the week as officially reported at the custom house were $547,500, chiefly American coin for Buenos Ayres. The imports of gold were $762,447, of which $502,935 was American coin chiefly from Havre, $215,192 bullion from Havre, and $44,320 foreign coin from Liverpool and the West Indies.

The stock market experienced a collapse in the latter part of the week, due to the adoption of the Cuban resolution by the Senate and the certainty of similar action by the House. It is believed that war is possible with Spain on the Cuban question, and though the outcome of such a struggle cannot be doubted, yet it would derange values, especially in securities. The placing of the great Baltimore & Ohio railway in the hands of a receiver is another depressing feature, though it will be but temporary in its influence.

Henry Clews, in his circular of Saturday, thus discusses the future of the stock market:

There is a strong undertone in values, but no marked activity in operations. The investment movement shows some revival, but it is principally railroad bonds and mortgages, in which there has been some improvement in prices. In railroad stocks, the transactions are largely confined to professional operators, the general conditions of business and of commercial credits being apparently unfavorable to participation by outside parties. For the last few days, influences from London have been unsatisfactory. That market does not appear to have yet recovered from the feeling evoked by the Venezuela scare. There are symptoms of preparations there for another "bull" campaign, but with little to indicate that it is to include "Americans," unless we are to suppose that sale here on London account are used to depress the market preliminary to the sellers becoming buyers; if so, the tactics have had little success. Probably, the truer explanation of these London sales is to be found in the persistent unfriendly tone of certain influential journals, which lose no opportunity for using our currency situation to dissuade English investors from holding our investments.

M'KINLEY IN NEW YORK.

More than a week ago the Buffalo Commercial published interviews with a large number of Republicans of that city as to their Presidential preferences. Those interviewed were not in active politics, but might be put down as average voters. The result showed an almost unanimous demand for McKinley, he having a greater number of admirers than all other candidates, combined.

Last Saturday the Commercial published interviews with representative Republicans living in fourteen of the principal towns in western New York outside of Buffalo. These men are in no way connected with machine politics, but are intelligent business and professional men. The result of last Saturday's interviews is thus summarized:

McKinley	374
Morton	48
Reed	27
Allison	6

This shows that it is not simply a Buffalo faction that wants the Ohio man nominated. The Commercial is satisfied that at least three-fifths of the Republican voters of western New York are unreservedly for McKinley.

Horace Boies, of Iowa, has given out a statement that he is not a candidate for President. This is the first intimation the country has had for some time that Mr. Boies is on earth.

Bill Nye's jokes were not appreciated in England; but that is high praise, for the average Englishman cannot appreciate a real joke under any circumstances.

The Cuban revolution is now one year old, and quite large for its age.

COMMENT OF THE WEEK.

The question of recognizing the belligerency of the Cuban insurgents has been the most prominent topic of discussion in Congress this week. The House committee on foreign affairs reported resolutions declaring that, in the opinion of Congress, a state of public war exists in Cuba, the parties to which are entitled to belligerent rights, and that the United States should observe a strict neutrality between the belligerents. The resolutions further declare that the government of the United States should exercise its good offices to secure the establishment of a government by the choice of the people of Cuba. These resolutions were not pressed to a vote Friday in the House, but the Senate adopted, by a vote of 64 to 6, resolutions reported by the committee on foreign relations, which recognize the belligerency of the Cuban insurgents, and request the President to exercise his friendly offices with Spain to secure the independence of Cuba. The sentiment of both houses, as indicated in the debates upon the question, is overwhelmingly in favor of such action.

The House on Monday passed the resolutions by a sweeping majority. What the President will do yet remains to be seen.

As regards what is involved in the recognition of belligerency, that is a topic which can only be briefly touched upon in a paragraph, but it may be said upon well-known authority that the recognition of belligerency, while exercising a moral influence in their favor, is not solely to the advantage of the insurgents. They gain, says Mr. Dana in a note to Wheaton, the great advantage of a recognized status, and the opportunity to employ commissioned cruisers at sea and to exert all the powers known to maritime warfare, with the sanction of foreign nations. They can obtain abroad loans and military and naval materials and enlist men as against everything but neutrality laws; their flag and commissions are acknowledged, their revenue laws are respected, and they acquire a quasi-political recognition. On the other hand, the parent government is relieved from responsibility for its acts done in the insurgent territory; its blockade of its own ports is respected, and it acquires a right to exert against neutral commerce all the powers of a party to a maritime war. In brief, as one of the latest writers on international laws put it, the effect of a recognition of belligerency is to endow the belligerent community with all the rights and all the obligations of an independent state so far as the war is concerned, but no further.

The action of the Senate, and the strong utterances by which it was supported on the floor of that body, has roused the people of Spain to an insane pitch of hatred. The most notable outbreak was that at Barcelona on Sunday. A huge public demonstration to protest against the Senate's action was held, and a number of speakers made fiery speeches. A portion of the audience at once set off for the United States consulate, yelling "Long live Spain!" and "Down with the Yankees!" Then they began stoning the building, smashing a number of windows. The police charged on the mob, dispersing it, and wounding a number. Then the rioters proceeded to the governor's palace, to protest against interference by the United States. The mob was cheered by ladies and citizens of the better class from the balconies of the houses and a number of American flags were torn up.

Congressman Hunter, the Republican candidate for United States Senator, has withdrawn from the Senatorial race. This became a necessity, because it was proved that, in order to get the Populist vote, without which his election was impossible, he had given a Populist member a written pledge that he would vote for silver legislation. His object was to make that member believe he was in favor of free coinage. When the honest money Republicans found out that Hunter had done this they began abandoning him, and his election became impossible. If chosen he must have been false to somebody, and those Republicans did not choose to take any chances. The probabilities of the election of a Senator by either party are decreasing. The sound money Democrats still refuse to vote for Blackburn, and he will not withdraw. The Republicans cannot succeed without a Populist vote, unless they unseat a Democrat, which they have not ventured to do yet. In the meanwhile the session is drawing to a close. But whatever happens Blackburn is beaten.

A recent interesting incident in Congress has been the discussion of the attitude of Secretary Morton in relation to the question of seed distribution. As is well known, the secretary has been an earnest antagonist of the system of free distribution which he found in force when he entered the department of agriculture as its chief. After vainly endeavoring to get Congress to limit the appropriations for seed distribution, the secretary in July last took the heroic step of issuing an order abolishing the seed distribution bureau on the ground that the secretary of agriculture could only purchase for distribution such seeds as were rare, and uncommon to the country or such as could be made more profitable by frequent change from one part to another. A great many people regarded this action of the secretary as exhibiting great good sense, but Congress appears to take the matter differently. In spite of protests from members that it was going in the direction of pure communism, the House disposed of the question of seed distribution by adopting an amendment to the agricultural appropriation bill requiring the secretary to expend $150,000 in the purchase and distribution of seeds, the best that he can procure, without reference to the requirements of the law about the varieties being rare and uncommon.

It is within the recollection of many an investor that the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad company used to pay 10 per cent dividends. Its stock was selling at 180, and it was generally looked upon as one of the securities that are called gilt-edged. It was then under the sway of the elder Garrett, who was intensely loyal to the great property this his ability, his determination, his aggressive energy had built up. But Garrett died, and the men who followed him made mistakes. The road went into the express business. It organized a telegraph company, and there was an awful row with the Western Union. The Pennsylvania company not only got control of the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore road, but it got an entrance into Washington, and the Baltimore & Ohio had to pay heavily for its own entrance into Philadelphia and New York. Its powerful Northern rivals made life a burden to it. They not only fought it in the Northern fields, but they invaded its own territory in the South. It has gone down, and fortunes have been slowly disappearing that were thought to rest on a solid foundation. Now it has gone into a receivership, and one of the best railway properties in the world has been ruined by mismanagement.

Evidence in relation to the Venezuelan boundary dispute is beginning to pour in upon the commission. The original documents, maps and records collected by the commission appointed by President Crespo are being forwarded to Washington. The Venezuelan government has appointed as its counsel before the commission Mr. W. Scruggs, of Georgia, who was formerly United States minister to the South American republic. It is understood that the claims of Great Britain, with the evidence relied upon to sustain them, are also about to be laid before the commission. The documents received from both Great Britain and Venezuela, taken in connection with the researches prosecuted by the commission on its own account, should furnish that body with an exhaustive mass of evidence, by the light of which to arrive at its conclusion in references to the true boundary line between Venezuela and British Guiana.

Some of the Germans who are looking for a plausible pretext for the exclusion of foreign grain have found one at last. They have discovered 850,000 bacteria in a single grammne of wheat from Russia, and as there are more than 27,000 grammes in a bushel of 60 pounds this means at least 23 billions of the bacteria in a single bushel of that wheat. The matter was brough to the attention of the Reichstag, and then it was stated that the German government already had been making inquiry, the director of public health having examined 16 samples of German and 17 samples of foreign grain. A report from United States Consul Stephen at Annaberg states that the result shows American wheat to be the purest, while the most impure is Turkey rye. One gramme of German wheat contained, according to the different samples, from 14,000 to 230,000 bacteria. The investigation does not help the exclusionists. They are furthermore rendered ridiculous by having claimed that the foreign bacteria could not be killed by the heat of the oven, while the government examiners found that none of the bacteria found are of a character to endanger human health, and that even the worst of them are destroyed by heat. It is fair to presume that the exclusionists now will pursue other tactics, as they are bent on shutting out all foreign grain if possible.

UNDER THE DOME.

A stirring diversion was made in the House Thursday of last week by an enthusiastic McKinley man, Mr. Wilson, of Ohio, who, in replying to Mr. Little, of Arkansas, in regard to the state of affairs among the Indians in the Indian Territory, branched off that subject in order to criticise the "flimsy" tariff bill passed by the House.

"What we want," he exclaimed, "is a good, old-fashioned protective tariff measure."

A round of Republican applause greeted this statement.

"I want to say," continued Mr. Wilson, "that the reports that the great advocate of protection has taken a backward step are false. McKinley stands today where he has always stood." By this time the House was interested, and Mr. Dinsmore (Dem.), of Arkansas, raised a laugh by moving that the time of the nominating speeches be limited.

Mr. Wilson, however, succeeded, despite the good-natured efforts of the friends of other candidates to prevent it, in having McKinley's Chicago speech read at the clerk's desk. Several times the words were applauded. There was an especially enthusiastic demonstration when this sentence was uttered: "The fight will go on until the American system is everywhere recognized."

Col. Robert P. Porter, ex-superintendent of the census, stopped for a moment in the lobby of the Shoreham to chat with The Blade's correspondent of things political.

"This favorite son business," he said laughingly, "is getting a trifle monotonous, isn't it? It seems to be a bit overdone, and perhaps the American people will conclude that it might be as well to pick out a man of national fame and standing like Gov. McKinley, and let the favorite sons stay at home, where they will get all the local honor they crave.

"There is Mr. Quay, to take one example of the favorite son. His move doesn't delude anybody, and I think it is more apt to weaken than strengthen his hand. The power of political leaders of his type is, no doubt, greatly overestimated anywhere. It isn't on record that they are a great success as President makers. When did they put one in the White House? Perhaps they may have prevented some strong candidate from winning, but I never knew of their putting in a candidate of their own choice.

"After all, the issue is made up. The battle of protection will be heard from the Republican cohorts, and the McKinley bill will be the slogan. Therefore, it is meet that Bill McKinley should be our leader."

There is no ill-feeling between Reed and McKinley forces. These two leaders always worked together in Congress, and it is said that should either of them be elected President, the other would be offered a conspicuous place in the administration. Some of Mr. Reed's friends say that if he does not get the nomination they would much prefer that McKinley should get it, and the same feeling is expressed by the McKinley men toward Reed. It is certain that the Reed men do not regard Mr. Morton as a serious candidate any more than they do Mr. Quay. At least that was the expression of one of the Reed leaders at the Capitol.

The "favorite son" Presidential movement is already burlesqued by being overdone. In a year when Republican success seams certain it is natural and proper that several of the great Republican states should claim the prize, and it is true that the number of legitimate candidates—men whom the confidence of the country justifies in entering the race—is larger than ever before. But it has never included more than half a dozen names. About three times that number of "favorite sons" are already being groomed with a job lot of states and territories still to hear from. The first thing to observe about many of these "favorite sons," is that they are not favorites at all, excepting among their henchmen and buglers—satellites of their own creation—or with other "favorite sons" and their retainers, for trading or other political arts exclusively. They are not only fearfully defective when viewed from the standpoint either of a candidate or an incumbent of the office, but they know it themselves, the members of their party realize it and the contingency of their nomination is not for a moment to be seriously considered. One thing is certain. If all the big bosses and state magnates want one man nominated and show their hand much before the St. Louis convention meets, the probability is that the result will go against them. It is the people's convention and they propose to have something to say about it. Party leaders may plan and combine and unite all they please, but if the tide sets rolling along with the wishes of the people, it will surely carry everything before it. This has again and again been proved at the national conventions of both parties. One reason why William McKinley is far in the lead to-day and is growing stronger all the while, is the conviction that he has not surrendered to the bosses.

Most people have noticed that the name of the secretary of the interior is rarely seen in print without his given name prefixed. It is Attorney-General Harmon, Postmaster-General Wilson, Secretary Carlisle, but it is always Secretary Hoke Smith. Whether this is due to the fact that there is always some fascination about the Georgian's Christian name, or to the notoriety which was given it through the newspapers when this administration came into power, is not known. It is possible that the secretary himself may have something to do with this frequent use of the prefix Hoke. He is undoubtedly proud of this family name, and invariably speaks of himself as Secretary Hoke Smith when he gives an interview to a reporter.

OUR BATTLE PICTURES.

The following letter will be of interest to those subscribers who are thinking of buying one or more of our splendid battle pictures:

Leavenworth, Kan., Feb. 22, 1896.—Publishers Blade: I would say the picture is received and I am highly pleased with it. As for The Blade, I am greatly pleased, but the mystery is how you can afford to send both for the sum of one dollar; it is more than I can understand, when either one is worth $1. However, I am satisfied if you are. I received the picture, took it and had a $5 frame placed around it, and now I have a picture worth $10 of any man's money. I think each old soldier should have a picture or pictures of the battles he was engaged in. Hoping for your success, and and that McKinley may be the nominee, I am yours,

S. P. THOMPSON.

A JUDICIAL FARCE.

The greatest judicial farce ever enacted in this country was that in Washington, where the aristocratic Miss Flagler shot and killed a little colored boy for trespassing in her garden. She had a private trial and aside from a light fine was sent to jail for three hours. She went to jail in her father's carriage, accompanied by lady friends, and for three hours sat in an easy chair in the parlor of the jail, having a most enjoyable time. It was a jolly affair and was quite a lark. But suppose the boy had done the shooting and had killed the young woman? He would have been dead ere this and forgotten.

New York city will sell nine million dollars' worth of bonds to build school houses. New York city will soon be in the Republican column.

DIET AND DIGESTION.

Bean soup may be digested within three hours.

Beans may be properly digested in two hours and a half.

Melted butter requires three and a half hours for digestion.

Cheese can not be properly digested under three hours and a half.

Wheat bread requires three hours and a half for perfect digestion.

Oyster soup requires from three to four hours for proper digestion.

Alexis St. Martin digested broiled venison steak in an hour and a half.

Three hours are required for the digestion of broiled or boiled mutton.

Baked sponge cake requires two and a half hours for proper digestion.

Hashed meat and vegetables will be digested in two and a half hours

Carrots are considered difficult of digestion, requiring over three hours.

Boiled parsnips are completely digested at the end of two hours and a half.

Boiled turnips will be properly digested at the end of three hours and a half.

Green corn, properly masticated, will be digested in three and a half hours.

The capacity of the stomach is varied greatly by age and habits of eating.

The frying pan is said by physicians to do almost as much harm as the beer-mug.

People digest food that they relish better than that which is distasteful to them.

Boiled apple dumplings require from three to four hours for proper digestion.

The average man consumes about 66 ounces of water or other fluids per day.

Sweet apples, cooked, are very easy of digestion, requiring but an hour and a half.

Women, on an average, need a little less than half as much food as a working man.

Very old people need from a third to a half as much food as when in their prime.

The capacity of the stomach of a man weighing 150 to 175 pounds is about five pints.

Maximinus, the Emperor of Rome, was able to eat a whole quarter of an ox at one meal.

Beets are among the most difficult vegetables to be digested, requiring nearly four hours.

Men of great size do not always have stomachs in proportion to their height or weight.

Condiments and stimulants are not really foods. They are simply whips to appetite or digestion.

Vinegar taken with food greatly delays and sometimes entirely prevents proper digestion.

Cocoa is believed to have no effect either in promoting or retarding the digestion of other food.

A man from 50 to 70 years of age needs only two-thirds of the food required for a working man.

Never go hungry to bed. A little light refreshment before lying down conduces to healthful sleep.

All foods should be carefully chewed, because the gastric juice is thus enabled the better to do its work.

Many worms and caterpillars have no special stomach. The whole interior of the body serves that purpose.

Suet dumplings require about five hours for proper digestion, and with some people they never digest at all.

Beef soup is much harder of digestion than would be supposed. The time required is about four hours.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

A WOMAN IN IT.

Dr. Mary Walker is now living on a farm about three miles west of Oswego, N. Y. She is a familiar figure on the streets of the town and always wears a full suit of black broadcloth with frock coat and silk hat and walks with a cane.

Prof. Petrie, the Egyptologist, has engaged the services of Miss Amile Pirie to copy the frescoes in certain tombs he hopes to discover near Thebes. Miss Pirie is a half-sister of Archibald Forbes, the well-known war correspondent.

Last year 200,000 portraits of the princess of Wales were sold in England. Some one says this is evidence of her popularity, but this may not be so. Her portrait is pretty and pretty pictures are always in demand irrespective of the subject.

Marshal Ney's daughter, Elizabeth Ney, who was famous in Europe for her delicate sculpture, has for twenty years worked quietly in Texas, where she is known as "the strange lady." She is now Mrs. Montgomery and is said to be a very beautiful woman. A sample of her work was the statue of Gen. Houston in the Texas building at the World's Fair.

Lily Langtry's daughter attracts much attention at Niagara, the new London skating rink. She has extraordinary skill on the ice and it is said her beauty rivals that of her mother in her younger days.

Some women are famous for one thing, some for another. Camilla Urso, for instance, has become a household word because of her artistic manipulation of "the fiddle and the bow." Camilla Urso's daughter, on the other hand, has achieved greatness as a dancer. Her success may not have been so widely talked about as her mother's, but it is none the less sure. Some one who has met her declares that never was there such impossible needlework as she is able to achieve. She can take a stocking and insert a small patch by neat and careful lapping of the woven edges until there isn't a sign of its having been mended at all, say her enthusiastic admirers. "It's a sort of work we read of our grandmothers having done when they snipped holes in their feet bibs and tuckers just for the sake of mending them more perfectly."

The wife of the late Dante Gabriel Rossetti was almost as remarkable a being as her gifted husband. Her name was Lizzie Siddal and she was employed in a bonnet shop in Leicester square, where she was seen and admired by a young artist, who induced her to be his model. She is described as "tall, finely formed, with a lofty neck and regular yet somewhat uncommon features, splendid golden sparkling eyes, large perfect eyelids, brilliant complexion and a lavish, heavy wealth of coppery golden hair. It was said that people could feel her and abuse under that name." When Rossetti saw her and became engaged to her she was but 17 years of age. It was ten or eleven years before they were married, though no one understands why they should have postponed their wedding day. Lizzie Siddal was no ordinary shop girl. Under Rossetti's training she became so excellent a painter that Ruskin allowed her £150 a year for what she could do for him, and she had a decided gift for poetry besides. She developed the seeds of consumption at a very early age and was so ill on her wedding day as to be scarcely able to go through the ceremony. She suffered also from acute neuralgia and took stimulants and opiates alternately. When she died an empty laudanum bottle was found by her side.

WIELDERS

Publishers' Column.

FAMOUS BATTLE PICTURES.

Owing to a popular demand from our subscribers, and especially from members of the G. A. R., we have arranged with a large publisher for a quantity of pictures of the most celebrated battles of the civil war. These pictures are of a high grade, chromo colors, large size (22x28), reproduced from the original oil paintings with wonderful accuracy. More than 100,000 have been sold during the past year at one dollar each, and our price to any person, who orders a picture alone will be one dollar. But we did not get these pictures for sale or for profit. We propose to give one picture free, postpaid by mail, to every person sending us $1 for the Weekly Blade one year. If your time expires soon, you can obtain a picture when you renew. If your time expires some time hence, and you want a picture now, send a dollar, and let us extend your time a year ahead from date of expiration. Or, get us a new subscriber and we will enter the new name for Blade one year, and send the picture to the remitter, if so directed. However, we are confident those who obtain one picture, will want several more, or perhaps all of them. You can obtain them one at a time by sending us new dollar subscribers. Try one of them when you renew.

NOTICE, however, that the above offer is only to those who send us $1 for subscription or renewal after this date.

Here is the list; make your selection from it:

Battle of Gettysburg, Pa.
Battle of Shiloh, Tenn.
Battle of Five Forks, Va.
Battle of Missionary Ridge, Tenn.
Battle of The Wilderness, Va.
Battle of Fort Donelson, Tenn.
Battle of Champion Hill, Miss.
Battle of Antietam, Md.
Battle of Atlanta, Ga.
Battle of Spottsylvania, Va.
Battle of Vicksburg, Miss.
Battle of Chattanooga, Tenn.
Battle of Cold Harbor, Va.
Battle of Resaca, Ga.
Battle of Lookout Mountain, Tenn.
Battle of Olustee, Fla.
Battle of Fredericksburg, Va.
Battle of Bunker Hill.
Battle of Tippecanoe.
Battle between the Monitor and the Merrimac.
Battle of Pea Ridge, Ark.
Battle of Bull's Run, Va.
Battle of Chancellorsville, Va.
Battle of Big Horn (Custer's Last Charge.)
Battle of Kenesaw Mountain, Ga.
Storming of Fort Wagner, S. C.
Capture of Fort Fisher, N. C.
Battle of New Orleans, La.
Battle of Cedar Creek, Va.
Capture and Death of Sitting Bull.
Battle of Kenesaw Mountain, Ga.
Battle of Stone River, Tenn.
Assault on Fort Sanders, Tenn.
Battle of Franklin, Tenn.
Battle of Nashville, Tenn.
Battle of Corinth, Miss.
Perry's Victory on Lake Erie.
Fort Pillow Massacre, Tenn.
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Battle of Williamsburg, Va.
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We also add a half dozen celebrated foreign battle pictures;

Battle of Waterloo.
Battle of Gravelotte.
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The Encyclopaedia will be sent by mail, postage paid. Address The Blade, Toledo, Ohio.

WATERPROOF OVERCOATS.

The goods we offered to the subscribers of The Blade last year met with such favor that we have concluded this year to extend our list of waterproof coats for men and ladies. The prices this year will be somewhat lower than last, and we have added to the list. We offer both single texture and double texture, sewed and seamed. These goods are not pasted together, but SUBSTANTIALLY SEWED.

We prepay express charges, and deliver these goods at your nearest express office. When you order, please give your postoffice and your express office address.

Men's Waterproofs, Double Texture, With Detachable Capes.

No. 500 black diagonal, double stitch seams $3 50
No. 501 tan diagonal, double stitch seams 5 50
No. 502, blue diagonal, double stitch seams 5 50
No. 550, Black Henrietta, double stitch seams 6 00
No. 551, Blue Henrietta, double stitch seams 6 00
No. 552, Tan Covert, double stitch seams 6 00
No. 600, Black All Wool, double stitch seams 7 50
No. 601, Blue All Wool, double stitch seams 7 50

Men's Double-Breasted Box, Velvet Collar, No Cape.

No. 700, Black, All Wool, seams sewed and strapped $8 00
No. 701, Blue, All Wool, seams sewed and strapped 8 00

Sizes are 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, breast measure. A 40-inch coat is supposed to fit a man whose breast measure over his under coat is 40 inches. State size you want.

Women's Mackintoshes—Inverness Garments. (Sleeveless.)

No. 800, single texture, fast black, with 27-inch cape, unlined $4 00
No. 801, single texture fast tan, with 27-inch cape, unlined 4 00
No. 802, single texture, fast blue, with 27-inch cape, unlined 4 00
No. 803, double texture, fast black Henrietta, 27-inch cape 6 00
No. 804, double texture, fast blue Henrietta, 27-inch cape 6 00
No. 805, double texture, black Henrietta, double cape detachable 7 00
No. 806, double texture, blue Henrietta, double cape detachable 7 00

Give your bust measure and length down the back from collar seam to bottom of skirt. We shall require some little time for filling these orders, as they have to be forwarded East to the factory, after we get the orders, and in most cases the garments are made to order. Subscribers, therefore, should not look for these goods sooner than three weeks after they mail us the order. Address THE BLADE, TOLEDO, OHIO.

NICKEL SILVER TABLE WARE.

It is Better Than Plated Stuff and Saves Much Worry.

We are now enabled to offer to subscribers of The Blade (and to subscribers only, remember,) teaspoons, dessert spoons, tablespoons and forks, made of composition known as nickel silver, which so closely resembles solid silver that an expert might be deceived. It is indestructible, does not tarnish so easily as solid silver from exposure to the air, and it is polished in the same manner as the solid silver goods. The patterns are no thicker than solid silver.

Prices.

They are sent by registered mail, postpaid, at the following prices:

1 dozen teaspoons $1 25
½ dozen teaspoons 85
1 dozen tablespoons or forks 2 35
½ dozen tablespoons or forks 1 35
1 dozen dessert spoons or forks 2 00
½ dozen dessert spoons or forks 1 15
1 dozen table knives 2 25
½ dozen table knives 1 25

These are made in only the one pattern. They are sent by express. There can be no variation from these offers. Only subscribers to The Blade can buy at these prices, but they can buy as much as they like.

METALS MADE FROM ALLOYS.

Bath metal is made from tin and copper.
Bell metal results from zinc and copper.
Bronze is the product of copper and tin.
Britannia ware is made from copper, bismuth and antimony.
Cannon metal is formed of copper and tin.
Dutch gold is made from copper and zinc.
German silver is composed of zinc, nickel, copper, and a small portion of iron.
Standard gold is made from gold and copper.
Copper and tin form gun metal.
Mosaic gold is a combination of copper and zinc.
Pewter is made from lead and tin.
Sheet metal is composed of lead and a small quantity of arsenic.
Standard silver is made from silver and copper.
Solder from tin and lead.
Type metal the combination of antimony, and lead.
White copper is made of copper and arsenic.

CUT PAPER PATTERNS

Splendid Offer to Lady Readers of The Blade.

NO. 6684—LADIES' AND MISSES' CYCLE YOKE TROUSERS AND LEGGINGS.

Bicycle cloth, serge or cheviot to match the skirt is usually chosen for this convenient garment, that is adapted to general wear as well as for cycling. The trousers are gathered at the top, being shaped to conform to the pointed yoke to which they are joined. The yoke fits smoothly around the waist and over the hips, being shaped by small darts and front and back seams. The top is completed by a belt, which may be omitted if not desired. Buttons and buttonholes close the sides,

No. 6684—LADIES' AND MISSES' CYCLE YOKE TROUSERS AND LEGGINGS.

which lap comfortably, the lower edge being completed with a band, into which they are gathered, or finished with a hem and elastic drawn through to adjust below the knee. The leggings reach to the knee and match the trousers, eyelets being worked on each side on front to lace all the way up, straps securing them to the foot.

The quantity of material 44 inches wide required to make these trousers for a lady having a 26-inch waist measure is 2½ yards, and for a miss fourteen years of age 2 yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6684, and retails for twenty-five cents, is cut in ladies' sizes for a 22, 26 and 30 inch waist measure, and in misses' sizes for girls of twelve, fourteen and sixteen years of age.

NO. 6689—LADY'S PLAITED SHIRT WAIST.

Fancy striped percale made this stylish shirt waist, which is one of the newest modes. Three backward turning side plaits or tucks are stitched on each front, a box-plait being formed on the right front edge, through which buttonholes are worked to close with studs or buttons. The back is plaited in the same way and joined to a round yoke that is made double, and the lower edge is worn under the skirt. Two collars are provided by the pattern, a turn-down collar, the front edges of which bend slightly back. Either collar can be permanently joined to the neck, or finished separately to button on, the neck being completed with a fitted band. The full gigot shirt sleeves are gathered top and bottom, openings at the back being finished with under and

6689—Ladies' Plaited Shirt Waist.

over laps, and the round flaring cuffs, shaped in two sections, are closed with studs or buttons. Wash silk, swivel, gingham, lawn, batiste, dimity and other cotton and linen fabrics are used for shirt waists by the mode. White collars and cuffs give the charm of variety to the waist, and are very fashionable.

The quantity of 36-inch wide material required to make this shirt waist for a lady having a 32-inch bust measure is 4¼ yards; for a 36-inch size, 4½ yards; for a 40-inch size, 4⅝ yards; for a 42-inch size, 5 yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6689 and retails for twenty-five cents, is cut in sizes for 32-inch, 34-inch, 36-inch, 38-inch, 40-inch, and 42-inch bust measure.

NO. 6688—LADY'S SEVEN GORED SKIRT.

The revival of the First Empire mode has created a demand for this style of skirt, which was a favorite with the beautiful but ill-fated Queen, and is always handsome, graceful and becoming to full or slender figures, and particularly desirable for stout ladies. Silver gray and green brocaded satin is here combined with dark green velvet, decorated with silver

No. 6688—LADY'S SEVEN-GORED SKIRT.

passementerie or embroidery, three large, fancy buttons being placed on each side overlapping the side gores nearer the top. The skirt is shaped in seven gores, two in back, two on each side, and the front gore, which is usually, but not necessarily, made of some contrasting material. The top fits smoothly, the sides overlapping the front gore with panel effect and falling in ripples below the hips. The back gores are laid in box plaits at the top, the placket being finished at the center seam and the top completed with a belt. A strap underneath holds all the flutes, ripples, etc., in proper position. The skirt is adapted to basques, jackets, coats and waists in Louis XV and XVI. styles, the vest, revers and cuffs of which usually match the front gore of skirt. In remodelling skirts this pattern will be found invaluable, as the soiled front width can be discarded, or a too narrow skirt widened by the introduction of a contrasting front gore, an endless variety of combinations being possible by the mode.

The quantity of 44-inch wide material required to make this skirt for a lady having a 22-inch waist measure is 4⅝ yards; for a 26-inch size, 5 yards; for a 30-inch size, 5¼ yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6688 and retails for thirty cents, is cut in sizes for 22-inch, 24-inch, 26-inch, 28-inch and 30-inch waist measure.

NO. 6645—BOY'S SUIT.

Checked tweed is represented in this stylish and comfortable suit, bone buttons closing the fronts of coat in double-breasted style. The knee trousers are shaped by inside and outside leg seams, small darts being taken up in the back to conform them to the waist. Pockets are inserted at the sides and the fronts close with a fly, a band being provided in which buttonholes are worked if adjusted to a shirt waist, or buttons can be arranged for suspenders. The coat laps widely in double-breasted

6645—BOYS' SUIT.

style, the fronts being faced and reversed in lapels at the top to meet the rolling collar in notches. The back conforms neatly to the figure, being shaped by center and side seams, and pockets are inserted in the fronts under laps at the usual convenient places. Comfortable sleeves are shaped in latest tailor mode, and all the free edges are finished with machine stitching in tailor style. By the aid of a good pattern like this much can be saved in a family where there are small boys by making over large garments, several pairs of trousers being a necessity. If attention is given to the pressing of all seams as free edges with a warm iron as the sewing progresses laying a damp cloth between the iron and material, the garment will never look "home-made." Cheviot, vicuna, heavy serge or camel's-hair suiting in plain, mixed or checked varieties will make attractive and practical suits in this style.

The quantity of 27-inch wide material required to make this suit for a boy six years old is 3½ yards; for a ten-year-old size 3½ yards; for a twelve-year-old size, 3¾ yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6645, and retails for twenty-five cents, is cut in sizes for six, eight, ten and twelve-year-old boys.

NO. 6675—YOUNG LADY'S CORSAGE.

The waist here illustrated is designed for receptions or general wear, the material chosen and the addition of yoke collar and lower sleeves of velvet making all the difference as shown in back view. Silver-spangled silk gauze is here chosen for full-dress occasions, made of turquoise blue satin, with silver-spangled passementerie forming the square yoke. Trifby bows of blue satin ribbon stand up on the shoulders, falling in loops on each side of the sleeves. The glove-fitted linings are shaped with double bust darts, and the usual seams over which the full fronts and back are gracefully disposed by gathers top and bottom. The closing can be effected invisibly in center front, or the lining can be closed in center and the yoke with full front arranged to close at the left shoulder and under-arm seam if so preferred. The fronts droop stylishly over the belt of turquoise blue velvet that closes at the left side. Full three-quarter puffs reach below the elbow, which are stylishly arranged over satin linings. Waists by the mode can be handsomely developed from

No. 6675—YOUNG LADY'S CORSAGE.

soft silks, crepe, chiffon, mousseline de soie, crepon, cashmere or other soft woolens with yoke, lower sleeves and collar of velvet or silk for ordinary wear.

The quantity of 44-inch wide material required to make this corsage for a lady having a 30-inch bust measure, is 3 yards; for a 34-inch size, 3¼ yards; for a 38-inch size, 3½ yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6675, and retails for twenty-five cents, is cut in sizes for 30-inch, 32-inch, 34-inch, 36-inch and 38-inch bust measure.

NO. 6670—LADY'S SHIRT WAIST.

The season for the popular shirt waist is fast approaching, and the sensible women who appreciate first choice of the pretty designs in wash fabrics are now purchasing for their summer waists and gowns. Striped linen batiste is the material here illustrated, the collars of which, two different styles, high rolling and standing, are provided in the pattern, being made separately and buttoned to the shaped band that finishes the neck. The full fronts are gathered at the neck and waist line, the back fitting smoothly across the

No. 6670—LADY'S SHIRT WAIST.

shoulders and gathered at the waist in center. A pointed yoke is applied to the back that strengthens and prevents discoloration. The lower edge falls in a frill over the hips, and can be worn over or under the skirt, as preferred, a straight belt of the material finishing the waist. The full leg o' mutton shirt sleeves are gathered top and bottom, and finished with straight cuffs at the wrists, openings being made in the sleeves, that are finished with under and overlaps in regular shirt waist style. Either style of collar can be joined to the shirt waist, the pattern providing for both the attached and detached styles. Linen batiste, lawn, madras, cheviot, percale, cambric, dimity, checked, figured or plain gingham will all make stylish shirt waists by the mode. All the edges must be finished with machine stitching and buttons or studs with corresponding buttonholes providing for closing. White linen collars are much en vogue to wear with colored shirt waists in this style.

The quantity of 36-inch-wide material required to make this shirt waist for a lady having a 32-inch bust measure, is 3¾ yards; for a 36-inch size, 3¾ yards; for a 40-inch size, 3¾ yards; for a 42-inch size, 4 yards.

The pattern, which is No. 6670, and retails for twenty-five cents, is cut in sizes for 32-inch, 34-inch, 36-inch, 38-inch, 40-inch, and 42-inch bust measure.

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The above pattern or patterns will be mailed to any address for only 10 cents each. We will fill orders from any person, whether a regular or occasional reader of The Blade. In ordering, address "Pattern Department, Blade, Toledo, Ohio," enclose ten cents silver for each pattern wanted, (do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds). State both title and number of pattern. No coupon required.

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To get BUST or BREAST measure, put the tape measure all of the way around the body, over the dress, close under the arms.

Rattlesnakes, Butterflies, and . . . ?

Washington Irving said, he supposed a certain hill was called "Rattlesnake Hill" because it abounded in—*butterflies*. The "rule of contrary" governs other names. Some bottles are, supposedly, labeled "Sarsaparilla" because they are full of . . . well, we don't know what they are full of, but we know it's not sarsaparilla; except, perhaps, enough for a flavor. There's only one make of sarsaparilla that can be relied on to be all it claims. It's Ayer's. It has no secret to keep. Its formula is open to all physicians. This formula was examined by the Medical Committee at the World's Fair, with the result that while every other make of sarsaparilla was excluded from the Fair, Ayer's Sarsaparilla was admitted and honored by awards. It was admitted because it was the best sarsaparilla. It received the medal as the best. No other sarsaparilla has been so tested or so honored. Good motto for the family as well as the Fair: Admit the best, exclude the rest.

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MISS NELLIE PARKER, PREST. CLEVELAND'S FRIEND.

Miss Nellie Parker ,of Richmond, Va., may not be a political boss, but she has a longer and a stronger "pull" with President Cleveland than most of the "leaders" of the Democratic party. Miss Parker deserves to have much influence at Washington—or anywhere else, for that matter—for she is one of the distinguished beauties of the South, and that is saying a great deal. The story of the great favor she is held in by the administration is interesting. Some months ago the President visited Atlanta, and Miss Parker took advantage of his presence there to call upon him. He was immensely delighted with the young lady and gave her, as a souvenir of the occasion, a brand new cent piece. This he told her to guard carefully, and when she wanted entree to the White House to show this cent piece to the guards, and that she would be admitted readily and without question. Miss Parker treasured her cent piece with great care. Not long ago she was in Washington ,and she thought she would try the talismanic effect of Mr. Cleveland's coin present. She did, and, mirabile dictu! its glistening red color acted as an open sesame, and Miss Parker was promptly ushered into the Presidential presence. Miss Parker is one of the belles of Richmond ,and is noted throughout the South for her charm of person. She is a Democrat and the daughter of Dr. W. N. Parker, a well-known medical man of Virginia's capital.—Chicago Times-Herald.

OLD FAVORITES.

Published by request.

THE SOLDIER'S DOG.

He starts from the hearth with a low, sad whine,
As the night wind rattles the casement frame,
And looks at me with eyes that shine,
As if through tears, when I speak your name.
Yonder your empty chair, by the wall,
Stands half in the shadow and half in the light,
And the old clock ticks in the silent hall,
Like a shuddering pulse of the dreary night.

A click of the latch at the garden gate—
Some sound like steps on the upper floors—
In the still long hours when we sit and wait,
Perhaps for your face at the open doors—
And sigh at last as the flex tree
Shakes on the pane and the fancy flies;
Then he lays his shaggy head down on my knee
And looks at me still with those wistful eyes.

Does not the thought of summers dead,
E'er haunt him, following mute and slow
Down the dim old paths we used to trace,
In the purple mornings of long ago?
Some long spent wind in the bearded grain?
Some lightsome carol on hedge or thorn?
Lost echoes caught from the reaper's strain,
Among the laurels and shining corn?

He listens, I think, for your footsteps still,
In the depths of the woodlands gray and old,
When the comfortless storms go sobbing at will,
And the maples are casting their tawny gold,
For the lightsome call that he used to hear
Through the sharp dead rustle of leaf and spray,
But the old ways now are lonely and sere,
And the roar of the cannon is far away.

Far, far away old Rover and we
Must wait at the shadowy hearth alone,
Haunted for aye by some tone of glee,
Some sleepless ghost of the glad days gone,
"Come close to my side," there! your rough paws so
And your brown head here—let the flex leaves
Whirl on the pane—ah! we all must know
That the heart that loves is the heart that grieves.

Away where the bellowing batteries' light
Reddens the dark of the Southern sky,
He has laid him down on the turf to-night
Thinking, Rover, of you and I.
For ladies, give BUST measure in inches. Grim with the smoke of the trench, or worn
With the toil of the battle, yet seeing there
The lights of home through the distance burn
And the faces that watch by his empty chair.

Ah well! the hour grows dark and late;
There will come no step on the silent floor—
No hand to-night at the garden gate,
No smiling face at the open door;
The shadows deepen along the wall;
But one stars shines through the falling rain;
They trust the best who have staked their all;
Lie down old friend, at my feet again!

A reader sent the above, saying: "I send you a gem that I picked up years ago. In my opinion, the whole literature of the war does not furnish its superior in touching sentiment—who was its author?" We do not know. If any reader can tell, we shall be glad to publish.—Ed. Blade.

NEW SCIENCE NOTES.

Air pew cushions for churches are among the latest novelties.

Still another use for wood pulp has been discovered. Mixed with coloring matter, it makes an excellent paint for use on metallic surfaces, and especially on steel ships. It becomes insoluble, and is absolutely impervious to heat and moisture.

Recent experiments show that the freezing of gas pipes can be prevented by injecting into the gas upon its exit from the gas meter a determinate quantity of vapor of alcohol. The influence of this vapor is exerted at a distance of two and a half miles from the gas meter.

The tunnels for another underground railway in London are rapidly progressing. The new road will be one and a half miles long and will be operated by electricity. The internal diameter of the tunnels, of which there are two, is 12 feet. In the "deep" the terminus will be 65 feet below street level.

Tempered steel can be readily drilled with a drill of crucible steel slowly heated at its tip to a cherry red, and then dipped—but the tip only—into mercury, the whole drill then being thrown into water. There is no need to reheat the drill, but its point will be found to be quite hard enough to deal with steel tempered in the usual manner.

A new fastening for shoes that is about to be placed on the market consists of two small chains connected with a button. The button can be moved up and down the front of the shoe, and when moved up interlocks the chains and laces the shoe, the downward motion producing the opposite result. A turn of the button at the top fastens the laces.

The automatic headlight should do much towards reducing the number of railroad accidents. The new headlight is suspended on two pivots, one above and one below, so that it can swing freely. From the bottom two chains run to the ends of an arm, which is connected by a rod that runs to the pilot's wheel truck. When the pilot wheel strikes a curve the outside wheel forges slightly ahead. This moves the rod and chain enough to move the headlight, so that the reflection is cast straight ahead on the track.

At Luncheon.

Bobby—"Mamma, will a piece of hot mince pie give one bad dreams?"

Mamma—"It will, Bobby."

Bobby—"Well, I had a whole lot of bad dreams last night without any hot mince pie. Can't I have a piece now to make up for them?"—Truth.

THE X RAYS.

The Progress of Experiments With the Roentgen Discovery.

There is no cessation in the efforts to develop the application of the new X rays.

The first really satisfactory effort to get a picture of a human skull has been made by Dr. F. S. Kolle, of 701 Fourth avenue, Brooklyn. He tried to get a shadowgraph of a boy's head and ex-

DR. KOLLE'S EXPERIMENT.

posed the plate to the rays for 50 minutes. He secured a black shadow, which gives promise of better things with a more perfect apparatus. Dr. Kolle used a voltage of 8,000.

What Edison is Doing.

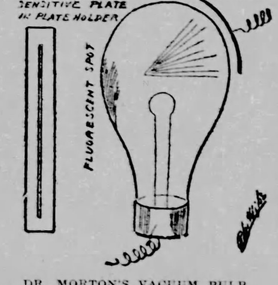
In the meantime Thomas A. Edison, with the intense desire to be practical, characteristic of the man, is making no effort to obtain any fancy pictures. This he considers a waste of effort until the power of the rays has been increased so as to secure pictures quickly, clearly and accurately.

Nearly all of Edison's experiments are made with the same strips of metal and other substances attached to a cardboard, and every change is carefully noted, so that the wizard can tell exactly what progress he is making.

Although he will try to get a picture of the contents of a human skull just as soon as he knows the rays are strong enough to get through it, he is far more interested in the application of the new discovery to bacteriology. Edison is very hopeful that the X ray will prove to be a potent foe to disease germs, and he will make the most careful experiments in this direction with the assistance of an expert bacteriologist.

Dr. Morton's Experiments.

The Roentgen rays are still claiming the close study of Dr. William J. Morton, of No. 19 East Twenty-eighth street, New York. "Some of the developments of my experiments," he said, "were highly satisfactory. The main lesson they taught is that thin tissues like the hand are easy to penetrate, and that thick tissues like a joint require at least three times as much exposure. Thin layers of bone are almost too easily penetrable. My claim to notice in this matter of the Roentgen ray is that I have discovered and published broadcast an entirely new method



DR. MORTON'S VACUUM BULB.
(One Electrode Inside the Bulb and One Outside.)

of producing the Roentgen radiation. This method consists in employing direct, without any intervention of transformers, the oscillatory discharges of Leyden jars or other condensers, to excite a Crookes or other vacuum tube. The Leyden jars I excite by a static machine, or by a Ruhmkorff coil.

"I have invented also a new sort of vacuum tube, in which one electrode or terminal goes inside of the bulb, or tube, and the other is fixed upon the outside. The important point about this new vacuum bulb is that a strong conical stream of cathodic rays is projected during the oscillatory discharge against the opposite side of the bulb, and there sets up a powerful fluorescence, from whence the Roentgen radiation appears to emanate. This is really the first demonstration yet made that anything resembling a concentration of the radiation can be effected, and from this point of view is of great importance. I find it to be an important step in the direction we are all striving after now, and that is the intensification of the effect and a consequent shortening of the time of exposure and an increased clearness of detail in the picture.

"By this new method, in actual practice I obtain great intensity and definition and short exposures, and I believe that, unless Professor Roentgen has withheld details of his processes, by employing the oscillatory current to charge vacuum bulbs, particularly of the kind of bulb I refer to, that the future possibilities of the process will be greatly enlarged for results will only be limited by the size of the batteries of Leyden jars, the size of the coil or dynamo used to excite them and the size and power of the vacuum tubes or bulbs, which can be constructed."

A GIGANTIC SCHEME.

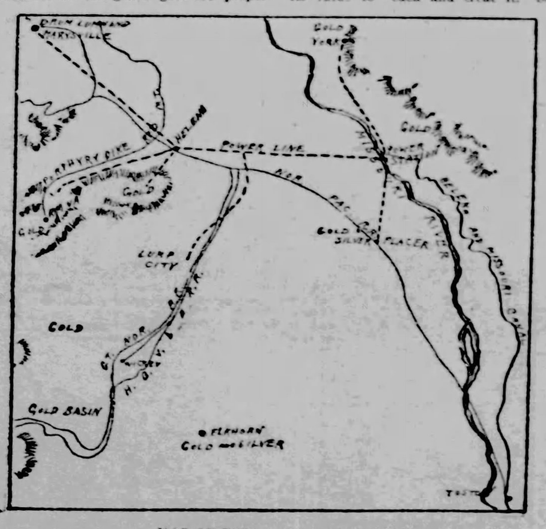
A Great Canal to Furnish Irrigation and Power to Montana Mines.

As soon as the frost is out of the ground so that work will be possible, the construction of the Helena & Missouri canal and its connecting electric plant will be begun. The enterprise is the most important ever conceived for Montana. It will bring into the market hundreds of low-grade gold-ore properties, and give the world an increase of gold that would be possible in no other way. An idea of the field to be opened can be imagined by the statement that there are, within a radius of twenty-five miles of Helena, fully 10,000 active gold properties, which are generally of too low a grade to be worked with power which runs as high as $250 per horse power per annum.

The irrigation feature of the enterprise will be important, but not nearly so far-reaching as will be the distribution of cheap power. Beginning at the town of Toston, on the Missouri river, the ditch will run north forty-eight miles to Canyon Ferry, bringing into cultivation 40,000 acres of rich fruit lands. The electrical power station will be located at Canyon Ferry, at which point the water from the ditch will have a fall of 185 feet. The plant will start with an apparent demand for 10,000 horse power, but prepared to furnish 20,000. This power can be increased indefinitely. The trunk line will run to Helena, sixteen miles, and there will branch. One branch will extend twelve miles to Marysville, where the famous Drum Lummond mine is located. Another will be run to the porphyry dike, the developments in which are now attracting so much attention. Still another will run to Lump City, six miles south, where there are rich gold and silver leads. Another one yet will take to St. Louis gulch, twenty miles southeast. On the other side of the Missouri river a line will give power to the mines of the old York and Confederate gulch, which, in the placer state, yielded about $20,000,000. This line will be eighteen to twenty miles long. Another spur will reach the old Whitlatch Union mine, 20 miles from Helena. Short branches will run from all of these lines, taking in the entire section of the country. Power will also be furnished for large smelting plants, which are to be erected here.

There is practically no limit to the amount of power that can be made available, as the Missouri river, where it is tapped by a diverting dam, is a strong stream. The canal going north runs down grade, and the water is returned to the Missouri river.

No reasonable idea can be had of the amount of gold that will be added to the world's supply by securing this power. The existence of low-grade ore in large bodies has been known for years, but it is so situated that it costs several times its value to reach and treat it. Some



MAP OF THE CANAL DISTRICT.

experts who have traveled all over Australia and Africa say they are the greatest ore bodies in the world. Much of the rock can be quarried, so that there is no mining about it, and it is of such a character that a modern 100-stamp mill will crush 500 tons of ore a day. In the St. Louis gulch the rock is above the average, running as high as $40 a ton, and yet it can be quarried as limestone. The porphyry dike body is immense. It runs $2 to $10 a ton, but the cost of mining is trifling, and with cheap power and milled in large quantities it would pay out immense fortunes. The dike proper is called twelve miles long and 600 to 800 feet wide, but it has been followed

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GONE.

And you are gone; the fire burns bright,
The curtained room lies lapped in light,
The books lie ready for your hand,
And in the speech we understand,
Each picture whispers to the night.

Outside, the moon shines cold and white,
And wandering through the leafless boughs
The low winds wail about the house
That you are gone.

Low laughter wake, sweet tones unite,
And chiming to the chords aright
The song you love rings in the air;
And, glancing at your empty chair,
The hot tears dim the yearning sight,
For you are gone.

THE GOLDEN NOW.

MAKE THE MOST OF THE PRESENT, FOR 'TIS ALL WE HAVE.

In the Hour That is Passing May Lie the Opportunity of a Lifetime—Do Not Overlook It.

"Now's the day, and now's the hour."

Did you ever sit in a public place, a listener to what was being said around you, and observe how entirely the majority of the people live in the future? Even the gayest and apparently the happiest are not enjoying the present to its fullest extent, but it is what they are going to do or have to-morrow, next week, next year, to which they are looking forward with an expectancy of satisfaction. Business men are so full of their schemes that are to culminate sometime in a material prosperity, that no matter how full of beauty and glory Nature has made the day, they pass unheeded. It is the future that is always in advance of us; it is the future that we never reach that occupies the most of our thoughts, while the pleasures which the present hour brings to our grasp slip by unheeded. And then the day is sure to come when, looking backward and seeing all that we have missed, we wonder at our blindness. We think of the days when our blessings were so many, only we did not realize them, and we wonder why it was only the glint and not the glory of the swift-winged hours that caught, but did not fix our gaze, as they flew onward.

Of course to the young no such thoughts come; no such regrets touch their consciousness. Life and its possibilities are all before them, the latter to be unfolded into a brilliant reality. It is not so surprising that they live in the future. They have not tasted of the cup of bitterness which failure, disappointment and sorrow bring. "Life," says Emerson, "is a succession of lessons, which must be lived to be understood. All is a riddle and the key to a riddle is another riddle. There are as many pillows of illusion as flakes in a snow storm. We wake from one dream into another dream." But the young do not know this. Those things which are but dreams sure to vanish away as Time goes onward, seem to them clear and well defined as anything in the present. The lesson is not learned. And so, as I said before, it is not strange that to them the present hour seems unimportant in comparison with those which are advancing towards them out of the future

The surprising part is that we who are older, who know from more or less experience how transitory are all things; who realize that

"Friends of your spring-time,
Old man and young maid,
Day's toil and its guerdon,
They are all vanishing,
Fleeing to fables,
Cannot be moored."—

knowing this, why we do not gather all that we can from the hour which is now passing without waiting for another that we imagine may be fuller of sweetness; or fearing that one approaches which possibly is more heavily freighted with pain or sorrow.

You see the present is, humanly speaking, all that we have in which to enjoy or to suffer or to work. And there is never an hour which passes out of which we may not gain something of pleasure upon the physical and mental planes, or of growth upon the spiritual side of our natures, the latter, of course, being by far the most important.

The present hour is the time for character building. We do not, in one sense, need to look beyond it, for if we do its duty, whatever that may be, we are prepared for the duty of the next, and the next, and so on, until, no matter what may come, our strength is equal to the need. I do not mean that we are to lay no plans for the future. That would be the sheerest folly, and, indeed, it may form the largest part of the duty of the present hour. After we have laid them, however, it is worse than useless to worry over the chance of their miscarrying; to cloud the sunshine of the day with apprehensions lest misfortune come. Many people invite failure by this darkening of their aura with doubts and fears; diminishing their power to meet and overcome difficulties which, indeed, might never have appeared had they not been so invited.

You know what Goethe said about fear: "Napoleon visited those sick of the plague, in order to prove that the man who could vanquish fear could vanquish the plague also; and he was right. It is incredible what force the will has in such cases; it penetrates the body and puts it into a state of activity which repels all hurtful influences; while fear invites them." It would be well to remember that when we are filling the present hour with fear.

When we find ourselves fussing and worrying over the future a wise thing always is to recall the line with which I started—"Now is the day and now is the hour," for it is emphatically true. Right here and now, in the hour that is passing, perhaps lies the opportunity of our lives. If we are looking ever beyond, ever forward to other hours that may or may not come while we are in these physical bodies, the opportunity perchance will slip by us unperceived. And no doubt many opportunities that would be worth much to us are lost precisely in this way. The fact is, there is never a moment that is not crowded with opportunities of some kind, which will mean much or little to us according to our reception of them. They may seem the veriest trifles to be seized or let alone as we fancy without producing any lasting effect, but this is not so. "Do little things now," says a Persian proverb, "so shall big things come to thee by and by asking to be done." It is the "now" which may color our whole future.

It is the present moment, the present opportunity, the present surroundings that we are to make the most of. There is as much chance to build character, to grow spiritually—the most important thing in life—in washing dishes if it comes to us to do, in darning stockings, in sweeping out a store, as in leading an army. The homliest task of the hour may be glorified by the way in which it is done, by the spirit exercised in its doing.

There is a little verse running in this wise:

"It was only a glad 'good morning'
As she passed along the way,
But it spread the morning's glory
Over the live-long day.
Only a thought in passing—a smile or encouraging word,
Has lifted many a burden no other gift could have stirred.
Only! But then the onlys
Make up the mighty all."

It is indeed the "onlys" that make up the mighty all and they come to us every hour.

The flowers blossom at our feet and we do not notice them. We have loved ones, a comfortable home, power to work, and we turn our eyes away to look into next week or next year for what may be stored therein. And we never know what they may be bringing toward us, whether of good or ill, and so the true wisdom lies in gathering the precious things out of each hour as it goes by. Work in the present; enjoy the present. Do not shut the eyes to the gold of to-day's sunlight, because that of the morrow may be brighter. Speak the good word; think the pleasant thought; do this hour's whole duty, and the next, with all coming ones, will take care of their own.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

"What does the editor of the Cozy Corner think about a woman endeavoring to keep up with the prevailing fashions, and how can any one with a slender purse do this? I have given the subject much thought—more, perhaps, than it deserves—and I finally come to the Blade editor and Household for a solution of the question."

The question of dress is, always has been, and always will be, of greater, or less, interest to women in all ranks and conditions of life. To some it is an all absorbing subject, to others a necessary trial. The dear, quiet Quaker lady is as particular to obtain the exact shade of drab, or gray, and that the quality of silk, satin, or cashmere used for her dress shall be of the best, as the greatest devotee of fashion could be in regard to her apparel. The bloomer girls with their professed disregard of fashion and their talk about the "emancipation of woman from the tyranny of dress, etc." spend much time and gray matter in evolving a becoming pair of garments, and even then do not always succeed in what they attempt, which must be, to say the least, discouraging.

While we all may feel it a duty to decry large sleeves, wide skirts lined with rustleine, and tell (truly enough) how uncomfortable is the cape that must be worn with these sleeves, yet none of us like to wear any other style of garments, and it is all right that we do not. No one should dress so out of fashion as to make themselves conspicuous. In Rome, one should do as the Romans do, unless he or she desires to attract attention. It is not necessary that we should go to extremes in this matter. We may have our gowns made so that they will be in the fashion and yet not be so pronounced as to cause us to appear ridiculous. We owe it to ourselves and to those who love us, to always dress as becomingly and as well in every respect as we can afford and it will not cost any more to have a dress made up in a fashionable style that will make us "look like other folks" with whom we associate than it will to have it after a style that has been forgotten for years, and I venture the assertion that any woman will feel more at her ease, will have more confidence in herself and acquit herself better in any society in which she may find herself if she has the consciousness that her dress fits well and her skirts have the proper rustle to them when she moves about. "Very small things to satisfy a woman." To be sure, but when one cannot have great comforts they are wise to see the very small ones.

And "how can one with a slender purse" do these things? In the first place always buy a good quality of material whether it be wool goods, silk, satin or cotton, then you can "make over" time and again and it will always repay your trouble. Always buy two or three yards extra of the goods and you will have something for new sleeves, or waist if you should care to make them. Keep watch of the fashions as they change and adapt your dresses and wraps to them. When you buy a pattern buy a reliable one, or better still, have some good dressmaker cut one that will fit you and after you have a waist lining that you can rely upon the battle is more than half won for you can have a variety of stylish waists by varying the draping of the material on this lining. And lastly, when you have a dress take care of it. Do not let the binding become frayed, a hook or a button be lost without replacing them at the very first opportunity. If your dress has a garniture of lace or ribbon do not fail to carefully brush with a soft brush and place it where it will be kept smooth and nice, when you put your dress away after wearing it. Brush the dust from the skirt and if it is wrinkled turn it wrong side out and hang it so the wrinkles will smooth themselves out by the weight of the skirt before you wear it again, and if possible do not wear a street dress in the house as it will thus lose its fresh and attractive appearance.

Cloth gowns are always nice for visiting, receptions, etc., and never more fashionable than they will be this spring. If you can afford a tiny edge of fur for trimming these dresses, so much the nicer will they be, as fur is used to a great extent with these goods. Embroideries on velvet are also seen. For dressy occasions revers of white broadcloth or velvet are used, sometimes these are covered with lace or passementerie. Cloth dresses for young ladies have the wide collar of the same edged with fur or a yoke outlined with it. The expense of this style of trimming varies, of course, according to the fur used. Many dresses are made with jacket fronts and vest and these can be worn without an outside garment when the weather will permit. Of course these fur-trimmed garments are for early spring. If for later in the season use other garniture.

But there are some things in life of more importance than dress and Mrs. Willa Harrison—always a welcome guest of the Cozy Corner—gives us this week some of her very sensible ideas in answer to Mrs. M. S. Allen's inquiry.

I am moved to reply to Marion S. Allen, as mine is a similar case.. A child's education begins with its first glimmer of consciousness. If we teach our babies regular habits, gentle manners, soft-toned speech, and, as Mrs. Allen suggests, to be obedient, we have given them a good start in life, even if we should be taken from them when we have accomplished no more than this. It is a mistake to believe that small children must make the whole family uncomfortable with shrill voices, and selfish demands on the time and strength of older people. Not harsh rebuke, but loving, consistent example, is the remedy, and nearly all children will readily follow such wise leading.

But what can we teach them, aside from this moral training, to make up for this isolation from schools established expressly for such as they? So many things, that it is hard to select. Tell them stories, gleaned from your older reading, simplifying according to their comprehension. Many pages of history and poetry will sometimes come to them as friends, through this introduction as "mother's stories." Many facts in primary geography and arithmetic may be illustrated in a forcible manner, with the most commonplace articles. Stick a knitting needle through the ball of yarn, and show the motions of the earth. Put ten large buttons on another needle, with a little beeswax on the ends, so they will not slip off, and you can teach all combinations of the numbers up to ten, by sliding them into such groups as you wish. Teach them by littles to write and draw. More than anything else, the busy woman must practice talking to her children as she works, for nothing will so much benefit isolated children, at the same time that it endears the mother to them, as intelligent conversation on her part, as the questions it engenders will abundantly testify. Surely it is some compensation for self-denial and loneliness to see the little minds unfolding under our own eyes rather than to feel this honor is conferred on another.

Not for a moment do I under-estimate the superior advantages of children in towns, but I believe it perfectly possible to keep the children at such a level mentally that when an opening comes, as it will some time, they will not fail to rise to the occasion. Do not think you cannot do these things. Children are not critical of those they love. If your methods are crude, they and you are better for the efforts. If your apparatus is simple, it consists of familiar objects, and their attention is all given to the point you wish to illustrate. Use good language. Read good books. Scan the papers for their sake. Success to the children!

One would think from the fact that the men folks are conspicuous by their absence from our Cozy Corner, that the mothers only were interested in what concerns the welfare of the home and the children, but Jeffry comes in among us this week with a letter, which makes it very easy for us to understand why his sons are all good boys and good men, for "As the twig is bent," etc.

Sister Allen, I will give some of my theory and practice on your momentous question. You can not commence training your children an hour too soon in the way they should go. The sooner they understand that your word is law for them that can not be violated with impunity, the better. I would say never promise to reward them for well-doing, nor punish them for wrong-doing, without fulfilling your promise to a dot; right here many mothers make a mistake. My life partner and I raised a large family, mostly boys. By early and persistent training they became industrious and truthful; do not use profane language nor chew tobacco, and last, but not least, they neither touch, taste nor handle the intoxicating beverage. Our theory is "one ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." If they don't commence to drink, they will not become drunkards.

Marilda J. B., from Oregon, gives us her opinion on the subject thus:

Mrs. Marion S. Allen asks how soon our children's education should commence. Out here where we live, we send them to school when they are four years old, and sooner, if the teacher is good-natured and will let them sit in the school-room. Of course, we don't expect they will learn anything until they are eight or nine years old, but it keeps them out of the way, and that is a great thing for the mothers who have six or seven little ones teasing and making such a racket as we must, expect with little children. In the cities, I have been told, the children can't be sent to school till they are six years old, and I do pity their mothers, for I should go crazy if mine staid home till they were so old—they ask so many questions about everything they see.

Primrose, whose long absence from the Cozy Corner, has been much regretted by all, has evidently met with an unpleasant experience, which she relates to us to-day:

To illustrate the foolishness of some women who have risen from poverty to riches through a wealthy marriage, let me tell you an incident. A group of young women and one or two elderly men and a charming matron were seated in the cozy library of a prominent citizen one evening after the Christmas holidays. The "charming matron" was the wife of the distinguished citizen, and once upon a time knew full well the pangs of poverty. The young women were relating to the fair lady what they had received as Christmas gifts, and as they concluded the matron said: "Oh, none of you received such a gift as I."

Then, with a sacastic grin, she remarked: "Why, my old washerwoman sent me a jar of pickles. How I smiled, but of course they are in the sewer now. The idea of a poor washerwoman offering me pickles, is too ridiculous." Then she laughed a haughty laugh, and all the girls laughed too, except me, and I could not help thinking of her poverty-stricken girlhood, when she would have been glad to have tasted some spicy pickles put up by a neat "wash lady." That's the way it goes in life, and the poorer the girl, the harder to please is she when she becomes mistress of a rich man's mansion.

I could not help but recall the incident of Lazarus and the rich man. In imagination I saw the kind-hearted slave of the washtub peaceful in Abraham's bosom in the blissful abode beyond the grave, while the fair matron was in torments, like the rich man the Bible tells us about, who begs for just "one drop of water to cool my parched tongue."

It is not nice of us to despise any gift, which may be bestowed with a kind and loving heart, no matter if it be only "a jar of pickles," or a spool of thread. At least it is a token of low breeding to make fun of a gift, and the woman who has been reared properly would not laugh at nor tell of a gift like the poor honest washerwoman proffered the haughty, low bred woman of whom I write.

If Primrose has any besetting sin to fight against, surely ingratitude is not one of them.

Mary Alice "became engaged," she says, during the Christmas holidays and at the request of the young man, her parents have not yet been informed of the fact. She asks the girls of the Cozy Corner what they think of it, had she better insist upon "his" telling her father and mother, or will it be nicer to keep it a secret? She explains that she asks the girls because she thinks they will sympathize with her more than the editor or the other old folks will, so the "editor and other old folks" will wait for the girls. Mary Alice adds, as a postscript, that she would like to tell her mother in order that she might be able to wear the ring he gave her, which she dare not do now. Girls of the Cozy Corner and M. G. R., we shall be glad to hear from you on this subject.

Jennie S. asks some one to tell her what is cochineal, used in coloring, and from where it is obtained.

"Old Man" would be glad to know what good it is going to do anybody, supposing the North pole is discovered? He writes a long letter setting forth the number of voyages that have been made to discover this pole, the great amount of suffering and death that have resulted from the efforts made and closes his letter with the above quotation. It would be interesting to hear from the thoughtful readers of the Blade on the subject.

Senior writes tell Country Boy that the first railroad in the United States was built in 1833, and connected Albany with Shenectady by what was considered rapid transit in those days and the first telegraph communication was between Baltimore and Washington, the message being the announcement of Polk's nomination for President of the United States.

The lady who complained of trouble with her stomach will find relief, almost always, by drinking a small cupful of hot (not warm) water in which enough table salt has been dissolved to give it a salty taste. Do this whenever there is a distressed feeling in your stomach, and just before retiring. So says Dr. M. S. T.

Laura Golden informs S. S. K. that Mary A. Butt is the author of the verse beginning "Build a little fence of trust around to-day." The one verse is all of a little poem called "Trust."

And Mrs. C. T. F. to cook salsify, scrape quickly and throw in cold water. Cut in small pieces and boil in water to cover until tender. Drain off the water, add milk, butter, salt and thicken slightly with flour. Or the roots may be scraped and boiled whole, sliced lengthwise, dipped in flour and fried in butter.

FOR POSTALS AND POKERS.

A Collection This Week Embracing Pokers, Postals and Flower-Pots.

Poker Holder.

Take a square piece of silk, velvet, canvas, or any desired material of a dark color, feather stitch it around the edge and embroider the motto upon it in chain stitch with bright colored silk. Line it with two thicknesses of canton flannel or

felt and bind the edges with narrow ribbon matching the material in color and ending at one corner in a loop by which the holder may be suspended. Black with red embroidery, blue with pink or gold, or green with gold or red is very pretty.—Grace Gardner.

For Postals.

Cut two pieces of cardboard a trifle larger than a postal for the front and back of the case; for the sides and bottom cut pieces long enough to fit these pieces and about two inches wide. Cover these narrow pieces with olive plush and line with yellow silk. Cover the front and back with the yellow silk, turning back one upper corner of the front piece as shown in the illustration. Decorate this piece

with the words "Ready for use" and the carrier pigeons and post box either with pen and ink or with brush and paint and join the several sections with fine over-and-over stitches.

The left hand side section only extends to where the corner is reversed so the cards can be taken out more easily.—Elsie Wright.

Flower-Pot Cover.

Take a piece of black Surah silk once and a half long enough to go around the flower-pot and wide enough to cover it from top to bottom, allowing for a six-inch hem at each edge. Turn this in and fasten with two sets of shirrs at each side so arranged as to leave a puff between each pair and a frill at the top and bottom of the crock.

Decorate the [illegible] with rows of tinsel

cord s[illegible] illustration and adjust the cover by means of cords put through the shirrs and drawn tightly down to the flower-pot.—Bertha Moore.

THE COOK'S DEPARTMENT.

"Good Diet, With Wisdom, Best Comforteth Man."

Sometimes people will be wiser than they think they are, although generally this statement is reversed, and people think they are wiser than they really are, but the cook was reminded of the fact first stated by a conversation with a very old lady, who was telling about old-fashioned cooking, and among other things said they used to break hot, baked potatoes into a bowl of milk when they wished for something especially nice and satisfying to their appetite. "Why in milk, rather than with butter or salt?" was asked. But the old lady could give no reason, only that it "tasted good, and seemed to do us more good." If she had had the modern advantages of cooking schools, and been trained in scientific cooking, she would have known that the milk supplied the nitrogen so necessary to our bodies as muscle forming food, and which was lacking to a great degree in the potato, which, however furnishes a greater amount of starch and other nutritious substances than almost any other vegetable If, then, we have the wisdom that will enable us to make such combinations in the food we prepare that each will complement the others, and hus supply every need of the system, we shall be able not only to comfort man, in his diet, but to secure the best results for our labor and use the materials we have to the best advantage.

And while we are speaking of potatoes isn't it something to be thankful for in these days of failures of so many kinds that we can feel reasonably sure of the potato crop every year, in some locality at least. While there is scarcely any article of food that has so universal a demand, and which is served on many tables three times a day, there are some persons who think there is nothing to be learned about cooking potatoes, not realizing that there is as much difference between one properly or improperly cooked as in any other article of food.

To boil, potatoes should be placed in boiling water that has been slightly salted. When done, drain, sprinkle with salt and shake; where they will dry off quickly this will make them mealy. For baking them, have a quick oven and turn them once or twice. In the spring, when the potatoes are old, let them stand in cold water for some time before cooking.

Cold, cooked potatoes may be used in many ways, especially for breakfast. One of the most commonly known ways is

Fried Potatoes.

Fry thin slices of salt pork till brown, remove to a hot platter and into the fat remaining in the frying pan put sliced, cold boiled, or baked potatoes. Season with salt and pepper and fry till brown. Serve very hot.

Scrambled Potatoes.

Heat very hot any gravy you may have left from roast meat or chickens, and stir into it cold boiled potatoes cut into dice. When thoroughly heated serve at once.

A New Potato Salad.

Two eupfuls warm, finely mashed potatoes, 1 beaten egg, 1 teaspoonful of salt, ½ teaspoonful mustard, 1½ tablespoonfuls vinegar, butter the size of an egg, 1 onion chopped very fine and a dash of red pepper. Mix well and garnish with white celery leaves and sliced cold boiled eggs.—Good Housekeeping.

THE CEDAR CHEST.

Her dainty summer wardrobe lay
On so'a, table, chair and bed,
All ready to be put away
With iris-root and sweet sachet.
"This tennis gown goes first," she said;
"'Twill do another season yet.
(I had it on the day we met.)

"This hat, all smothered up with veils,
Is quite passe; I'm sure of that."
She paused; above the autumn gales
She seemed to hear the flap of sails.
"He always liked me in this hat;
This jacket, too, he thought divine—
I'll keep it, tho' 'tis stained with brine.

"This parasol, all lined with red,
I can not use again next year.
How many foolish things he said,
While holding it above my head,
And meant not one of them, 'tis clear,
I'll tear the cover from the stalk—
(It's lucky parasols can't talk.)

"This dancing dress, although quite new,
Is soiled about the hem, I see.
He made me walk out in the dew
(I went quite willingly, 'tis true)
To that gnarled seat beneath the tree
This little rip, too, in the lace,
Was made there in that very place.

"This morning suit of white pique—
I wore it when he said good-by.
I never liked that suit, some way—
I'll give it to the maid to-day."
She closed the chest down with a sigh.
Beneath the silent cedar lid
A girl's dead dream of love lay hid.
—Ella Wheeler Wilcox in Leslie's Weekly.

THE MERRY-GO-ROUNDS

Send Representatives From Eight States to This Week's Session.

Subject for discussion during February, "Resolved, That Cordelia, the daughter of King Lear, is a specimen of ideal womanhood, and why?"

Miss Maud Kennard, of Lancaster, president of The Plade M. G. R.'s in Ohio, made the folowing inaugural address this morning:

"Before I take the executive chair, I want to ask the hearty co-operation of all my constituents. We have 106 members in Ohio, with this advantage, we ought to carry the bannership without any trouble, that is, if each one of you does your part. Begin with the first subject, and continue the good work."

The new members who listened to this concise address were Grandpa No. 2, Killdee and Nina.

The old members present were: Mo. Mocking Bird, Jessie June, Mollie Moore, C. E. Palmer, Olive Delight, Sweet Brier, Freda Fern, Zack Stubbs, Lucile, Elwyn and Brown Eyes.

Willa:—Only one report will be published each month.

Kay:—You should have sent your essay to your state president, Miss Margarete Williams, Box 79, Adams Centre, N. Y.

Philosopher:—Both letter and the paper are received. Your prize will soon be sent, and will probably be a book of some sort. Thanks for the papers.

Killdee, Va.:—"If I am permitted to join the M. G. Rs. I am willing to put my shoulder to the wheel and help to roll old Virginia to the front. I know there are many readers of The Blade in this state, and can not see why we should not succeed. Sister Phebe, I have an idea that Sirayo and Phrenologist are both old bachelors, and I think they should not try to discourage the young men simply because they have been unfortunate themselves. I agree with S. Society that money will do many things. Some men get a fortune away back in their eye with a young lady before it, and fancy it is the girl they are in love with, until they discover their mistake upon finding out there was no fortune."

Nina, O.:—"I have often thought I should like to meet some of the M. G. R. girls, but have never had courage to write until to-night, after reading the letters from Hope and Cara Mia, at the Iowa State Hospital. I wonder if their institution can be as nice as ours at Toledo. I think I have seen Miss Prudence out here, and I know she will agree with me that we have a lovely place."

Brown Eyes, O.:—"I wish to make a few remarks in regard to the Venezuelan controversy. In the first place, I never thought it right for a strong nation to intrude upon a weaker republic, just because it had the power to bring the other under subjection. In the second place, we know that it has been the tendency of Great Britain to grab land whenever she took a notion to do so. Therefore, I think with Frankie, that the Monroe doctrine should be enforced."

Elwyn, O.:—"We have reason to thank our Chaperone for establishing a precedent for the retirement of superannuates; it is the only way to dispose of hackneyed subjects. Of course, we do not believe that the present attitude of the New Woman is a real menace to the liberty of man specifically speaking. We are mutually dependent, and the eternal law of nature will surely prevail. We each have a place in the general plan, but must keep in this place if we hope for safety; the ponderous machinery of the universe will not jar perceptibly if we happen to be crushed as we stray from our place

'In pride, unreasoning pride, our error lies;
All quit their sphere, and rush into the skies.'"

Lucile, O.:—"Three cheers for '96! Our circle never was better, and let us work still harder until we can say that we have done our best and improved our Order as much as possible. I thank Little Rhody for the information she gave me, and must say that I was not disappointed to learn that the author of "Georgia Volunteer" was a woman. I was much pleased with our Christmas entertainment, and hope we may have another similar one soon. I wonder if any of the circle are studying geometry, and how you like it for my part—well, I won't express myself further than to say I very much prefer something else."

Zack Stubbs, Ill.:—"I think S. Society's question is a good one. I say secret societies are not unchristianlike, if the order's purposes and aims are made known. I am a Good Templar, and our secrecy is only a shield and a help to us, as one may judge by the simple fact that the Order is now larger than all other temperance societies combined.

"Secrecy to a certain extent is protection. Does not the United States Senate transact all its more important and delicate business with closed doors, and is not each meeting of the Cabinet strictly a secret society? Even many religious denominations hold meetings to which only certain ones are admitted. Who thinks of questioning these? Would like to hear from many M. G. Rs. or G. T's. also."

Sweet Brier, Ind.:—"We have just received The Blade containing a list of presents Thistle so generously distributed among the M. G. Rs. My sister, Olive Delight and Freda Fern, pounced upon the paper as usual, and read the list aloud, and while I recognized several familiar names, one, the most familiar (to me) of all, did not appear—while I looked like an animated interrogation point—I know I did, for I sat facing a mirror! I was eighteen (?) the other day, but what does it matter if Christmas and my birthday have gone without my having been remembered?"

Freda Fern, Ind.:—"Thistle has my thanks for that delicious cup of tea. After returning from school, tired and—yes, actually cross, it was very gratefully received. Sweet Brier is not half as disappointed as she pretends to be, for I offered her some of my tea, and she absolutely refused it."

D. D. T. says she loaned "Adam Bede" to a young lady whose father returned it before she had read it, saying it was an unsuitable book for young persons, and D. D. T. wishes to know if others agree with the gentleman. The editor reserves her opinion till others have spoken.

Olive Delight, Ind.:—"Thanks to Thistle for the corn-popper. How can I return the compliment? Probably by sending her a lovely valentine. Have we done enough for the prevention of cruelty to animals? Have any of you read Black Beauty and Beautiful Joe? I would like Margarete, N. Y., to give some information concerning the schools there. Here we teach reading writing, arithmetic, grammar, history, spelling, geography and the effects of tobacco and alcoholics."

C. E. Palmer, Ind.:—"It has been six months since I wrote to the M. G. R.'s, and during that time I have had abundant opportunity to get my breath to come again. I thank Thistle for my wonderful book, and inform her that C. E. Palmer and Old Dan Tucker are all the same. I thank her also for the beans; half of them are gone already; I am saving the rest for a Thanksgiving dinner, which I hope we will have in its season."

Mollie Moore, S. D.:—"I desire to thank the members of O. W. C. and M. G. R. for their remembrances on the Christmas tree. I believe I felt as good as if I had really received them, and my only regret is that I did not take part. I think the Schoolmistress's gift was slightly suggestive (a slumber robe), as I have been a little nappy in regard to O. W. C."

Jessie June, Kan.:—"I see that a brother M. G. R. takes exceptions to a remark I made in my last letter. I agree with him, that no one ever helped another out of the mire by standing at a distance and shouting that the footing was better on higher ground; but could we not throw to them the life line from that position, and draw them up to the firmer footing? If I went down into the mire to give them my hand they might drag me down with them and we both would perish.

"I cannot imagine how one would feel without one friend in the wide world. I can sympathize with the heart-sick and discouraged, but there is one Friend to whom we can always go, who is ever ready to comfort the heavy laden ones. I would not be a true M. G. R. if I refused to act the good Samaritan; any one that I see struggling to regain lost footing, I help and encourage all I can. I do not think it hurts any one to speak to another no matter how low and degraded they may be, but to make a friend and associate of them is a different thing altogether. I draw the line there."

Missouri Mocking Bird, Mo.:—"After a long absence, I am coming back to inquire for my friend Blue Jay. Does any one know what has become of him? I really didn't intend to hen peck him out of our column. If he hadn't been so quiet all summer, I should think he was coming to Missouri to spend his winter as his brothers do. I am very anxious to hear if he has not yet changed his ideal. How many of the girls raise their favorite flowers themselves? I have a garden 20 by 16 where I raise the loveliest sweet peas and mignonette and intend trying pansies and nasturtiums this summer. I always give so many away and have a bouquet for ourselves every day. Sir Tobey, 'them's my sentiments' and I send you a valentine, via Em-ajination. I have been in bed for the last week with la grippe and am up to-day for the first time. Hoping no one else has had a like affliction I am yours for Uncle Sam and McKinley."

Grandpa No. 2, Neb.:—"On Jan. 1, 1896, I commenced taking the Blade and I find many good things therein, and am becoming quite interested in the M. G. R.'s because I so often see an idea injected into what they have to write that pertains to a more perfect life. I hear many say: 'I'd like to be a Christian if I thought I could be a good one, but it is so badly mixed that I don't know what to do.' Now I feel sorry for the world's people for I count them all my brothers and sisters, and I do think they would much rather walk in the light if the true light was revealed to them."

Considerable argument is still being brought to bear upon the subject of changing the name of this department. When it was only a department this might easily have been done, but now that we are an organized order with badges bearing the old name, the members will see that the change would involve no end of trouble and expense. The Chaperone advises all who are not satisfied to remember that there's little in a name; 'tis deeds not words that count.

All communications for this department should be addressed to The Blade, Toledo, O., "M. G. R."

THE END.

When I forget old faults behind,
And search the years with forward mind,
What would I see?
Of all the days what would I get,
Before the low green mound shall set
Earth's end for me?

True hope, for seeing, looks, looks, yet sees
No empty time of aimless ease,
And naught begun;
No idle space where I might lie
And watch the sweating world toil by,
My part undone.

But when shall rise that last sure morn,
Still may I stand amid the corn
All day to reap,
And when the sheaves are heaped at night
As fades the streak of lonely light,
So may I sleep.
—C. Macnamara in Sunday School Times.

QUEEN VICTORIA.

What She is as a Woman as Well as a Queen.

Among all the errors cherished by Americans in regard to the English and their institutions, there is nothing upon which they are so mistaken as in regard to Queen Victoria and her position and influence with her people. It is very generally believed that her subjects have become excessively tired of her protracted reign; that they are awaiting anxiously for the accession of the Prince of Wales. As to her personal traits, she is believed to be parsimonious and exacting to a degree; and it has even been energetically reported that symptoms of hereditary insanity have developed recently of a very alarming nature. There is no foundation for any of these opinions.

If there was nothing else to be said it would be a remarkable record that, in the whole course of a reign of fifty-nine years Queen Victoria has never done or said a foolish thing. There is not a monarch in Europe of whom such testimony can be given.

It is true that she is enormously rich, but where her predecessors have squandered millions she has spent nothing, because so far as her personal expenditures are concerned, she is a woman of the simplest tastes. It is said of her that she has an affection for comfortable old garments, and that, while she will lavish the richest gifts in silks, laces, and velvets upon her children, grandchildren, and daughters-in-law, she saves the comfortable, well-worn gowns and cloaks for her own use.

In addition to this peculiarity, also, unlike her predecessors, her well-ordered, pure and upright life has made praiseworthy economy possible where they were conscienceless spendthrifts.

So rapidly is the spirit of democracy growing in England that the incomes of English Princes, voted by Parliament, are becoming smaller and smaller. There are hundreds of Americans who have far larger fortunes than the Duke of York, although the household expenses of all the Queen's immediate family are enormous. For these the Queen will provide in her will, as, for example, in the case of the widowed Princess Beatrice, and her portionless children, to whom she has bequeathed the estates of Osborne. Her providence has borne in mind those debarred by rigid etiquette from earning money and who can hope for no aid from the public treasury.

Then there is scarcely a public subscription—none, indeed, of any importance, to which she does not contribute liberally; benefits for actors and musicians, funds for hospitals and for public relief; and her gifts to those who have won favor in any way, her personal friends, or the children of her friends, are most liberal. It must be borne in mind that it is not permitted her to do anything in a very moderate way. If she takes a number of seats at a benefit, for example, it must be from twenty to fifty.

We have heard much in the United States of the cashmere shawls which are her favorite gifts to English brides; but we never hear that there invariably accompanies the gift a costly jewel, or some other valuable memento. In addition to this, her private benefactions are almost numberless; so great are they that she dare not let them be known, but there are thousands to whom she has

given aid in dire need, with the understanding that the name of the donor shall not be given to the public. She has been one of the most liberal patrons of art of many a struggling painter owes his sudden popularity and subsequent success to the patronage of the Queen. This has been especially true where the artist was a woman. She bought Lady Butler's "Roll Call," when the artist was scarcely known, paying her many thousands of pounds, and making her famous. She has befriended Mme. Albani in the same manner, and has given her jewels that are a fortune in themselves.

She is a woman of varied and extensive acquirements, a tireless reader, an accomplished linguist and musician. It is said that some time ago Mme. Albani was singing for her, and the Queen, not being quite satisfied with the accompaniment, asked permission to play it herself, which she did with much expression and skill.

In her manner toward her family she is tenderly affectionate, especially towards her little grandchildren. She is kind, sympathetic and considerate to her dependents, and especially those who have been long in her service.

As to the loyalty which her people feel for her, Conservatives and Liberals alike, one must be in her dominions to realize how true and steadfast it is. There is not the slightest desire that her long reign should terminate and the Prince of Wales assume the responsibility of government. Reverence is a deep-seated trait in the English character and the reverence for the Queen is profound and unswerving. She has been tested; her wisdom, prudence and conservatism have been tried, and, in this country, there is no desire to dispense with that which is old, simply because it is old; on the contrary, age enhances value. If she lives yet a score of years, her people will rejoice, and when she at last passes to the unseen she will be profoundly and universally lamented.—Mary K. Krout in Inter Ocean.

MY CASTLES IN THE AIR.

Oh they are beautiful, those castles fine
That I build day after day,
On gilded hopes doth the future rise,
Then comes sad truth to this heart of mine,
When my castles vanish away.

The future is woven with threads of gold,
By hope made of roseate hue;
Many priceless gifts my castles hold,
Life's richest blessings my heart infold
When my fanciful dreams come true.

Many wonderful deeds I then shall do,
Fame's laurels I hope to wear;
But ah! if those dreams should not come true,
If they fade forever from my view,
My dear, bright, castles in the air!
"LENORE."

THE SCHOOL BELL

Tells a Story of the War, Which Was Founded on Fact.

"What a queer, old-fashioned bell!"

Miss Graham looked up quickly. "Yes," she said, "it is certainly old-fashioned, and perhaps queer, but a dear old bell for all that."

"If it has been a school bell all its life a great many boys and girls must have come at its call. I should like to hear some of the stories its iron tongue could tell if we could only understand its language," said little Mary Prince, the child who had first spoken.

"I can understand it well enough!" said Jim Blake.

"Hurry in! Hurry in!" right in the middle of a game! I shouldn't think you'd want to hear any more of its 'iron tongue' than you're obliged to."

"Perhaps I shouldn't if I were such an ignoramus as some of my schoolmates," said little Mary severely. "But Miss Graham, if you have known the

bell a long time perhaps you can tell us the stories."

"Yes, dear, I think I can, for I carried it to school the first morning I ever went, and it was a new bell then. We began our school life together, and in all the long years since have never been separated. Some day I will tell you what the bell saw and heard during the war."

"Even Jim Blake didn't linger the next Friday afternoon when the bell announced that recess was over, for Miss Graham had promised the children the bell's story, and, eager-eyed and story-hungry, they were soon in their seats.

"Miss Graham was not in sight, but a large screen hid her chair. The bell stood in its usual place on the table, and the children were greatly astonished to see it slowly rise and take its stand on the big dictionary. One or two pairs of bright eyes saw an almost invisible wire that may have had something to do with the mysterious movement, but just then a clear metallic voice began.

"My earliest recollections, my dear children, are of standing in a beautiful window overlooking Boston common and watching the boys and girls go trooping along to school. That was 40 years ago, and they tell me that great changes have taken place on Tremont street, but I don't believe the children now-a-days are any more rosy cheeked and happy than those I used to love to watch on the beautiful spring mornings so long ago. I remember that the long row of bells of which I was one attracted their attention: "English bells," they called us.

"We had stood there but a few weeks when one morning a young lady came in and asked to look at bells. I was very proud to hear her say that she liked me best of all, and to be carried home in her own hand and given the place of honor on the great, mahogany side-board. I thought this was to be my home, but I soon learned my mist

News of the Week.

The Blade is a newspaper for free American citizens, and under the above head, aims to give first, those events which are the history and progress of the world for the week—those which every intelligent man needs to know and should know; second, all important political events; and lastly, the leading minor occurrences that possess interest to every educated and thinking reader.

54TH CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

Washington, Feb. 25.—There was quite an animated scene in the Senate to-day over the second attempt to have the House tariff bill taken up for consideration. Mr. Morrill, of Vermont, chairman of the finance committee, felt it his duty to renew the attempt, but the motion was defeated by 22 to 35. The Democratic votes were all cast against the motion, and they were backed by the votes of five Republican Senators—Messrs. Cannon, of Utah; Carter and Mantle, Montana; Dubois, Idaho, and Teller, of Colorado, and by the votes of five Populists—Messrs. Allen, of Nebraska; Jones and Stewart, of Nevada; Kyle, South Dakota, and Peffer, Kansas.

The last three hours of the day's session were given up to the consideration of the Cuban belligerency resolution. Mr. Morgan, Alabama, concluded his three day speech in support of the resolution, as reported from the committee on foreign relations.

Mr. Gray, Delaware, another member of the same committee, while denouncing Spanish rule in Cuba and declaring the warmest sympathy with the revolutionists, agreed that the declaration of belligerency was solely an executive function, and outside of the constitutional power of Congress.

The House to-day entered upon consideration of the first contested election case in which there was a division of the elections committee upon the finding—that of Van Horn vs. Tarsney, from the Fifth district of Missouri. There was, besides the division of the committee on political lines, the separation of one of the members of the majority—Mr. Taylo, (Rep., O.) from the recommendation made by it that the contestant, Van Horn, be seated, instead of Tarsney, who now occupies it. He agreed with the majority, which did not express an opinion, but recommended that the case be reopened for a count of the ballots in the disputed precincts in Kansas City, where the frauds were committed, upon which action the majority based its recommendation. The adoption of the committee recommendation was advocated by Mr. Strode (Dem., Neb.) in a speech of nearly two and a half hours, in which he set forth in detail the extent and character of the frauds committed, and contended that the conditions were such that the returns from the precincts in question could not be purged of the taint of fraud, but, as the committee had found, must be rejected entirely.

Before taking up the election case, the House passed the Indian appropriation bill without further discussion, the paragraph relating to the purchase of the title of the Ogden Land company to lands in the Allegheny and Catteraugus Indian reservations, in the state of New York, having been stricken out by unanimous consent.

Washington, Feb. 26.—The army appropriation bill was reported in the Senate. Mr. Carter, of Montana, made a free silver speech, in which he claimed that the Republican party must adopt that policy. The Cuban resolutions were debated.

The House concurred in the Senate amendments to the bill extending the time within which suits may be brought to vacate and annul land patents. The contested election case of Van Horn vs. Tarsney was discussed.

Washington, Feb. 27.—In the Senate Mr. Proctor, of Vermont, spoke in favor of the bill to provide for seacoast defenses. The bill providing two revenue cutters for the Pacific coast was passed, as was the army appropriation bill. The Cuban resolutions were debated at length.

In the House the Van Horn-Tarsney contest was decided by seating Mr. Van Horn, after a long and heated debate.

Washington, Feb. 28.—The Senate adopted the report of the conference committee on the pension appropriation bill, and then discussed the Cuban resolutions, which were adopted—yeas 61, nays 6.

The House spent the day in the discussion of the legislative appropriation bill.

Washington, Feb. 29.—The Senate was not in session. The House passed the bill to authorize the leasing of school lands in Arizona over the President's veto, by a vote of 139 to 38—three more than the constitutional two-thirds majority. This is the first veto overridden by the House in this Congress. The legislative appropriation bill was again discussed.

Washington, March 2.—The House to-day after two hours' spirited debate under the limitations of a suspension of the rules, by a vote of 268 to 17, agreed to (in lieu of the resolution adopted Friday by the Senate) the concurrent resolutions reported last week by its committee on foreign affairs, declaring that, in the opinion of Congress, a state of public war exists in Cuba, that the parties to which are entitled to belligerent rights, and between which the United States should observe a strict neutrality. They further declare that Congress believes the only permanent solution of the contest is in the establishment of a government by the people of Cuba, and that it is the sense of Congress that the government of the United States should use its good offices and influences to that end; and that the United States should be prepared to protect the legitimate interests of its citizens in Cuba, by intervention, if necessary. The last of the series of resolutions reported by the committee pledging the support of Congress to the President in carrying out the foregoing was stricken out, it being thought unnecessary, being covered in the others.

In the morning hour, a number of bills were passed by unanimous consent, or under suspension of the rules, among them being the Senate joint resolution, directing the secretary of agriculture to purchase and distribute seeds, bulbs, etc., as has been done in preceding years.

In view of the warlike talk that has been heard at both ends of the Capitol, the action of the Senate to-day in passing a bill to enlarge the navy is significant. It was agreed to without a dissenting voice, and, through it, there is placed in the hands of the President, a restricted power with which to deal with the Spanish Cuban situation, should the emergency arise. The bill provides for the enlistment this fall of 1,000 men for the new ships now in commission, and appropriates $280,000 for their compensation; it also gives the President power, in the event such authority becomes necessary, to enlist such part of the naval militia (about 5,000 men) for a period of two years, giving full complements for such vessels that do not have full crews, and authorizes him to charter steamers for transport of troops.

The remainder of the day was consumed in the passage of bills on the calendar that are unobjected to, the most important being one to promote the efficiency of the revenue cutter service, by establishing a permanent retired list on three-quarter pay; and the omnibus bridge bill, relating to the construction of bridges over the Mississippi and Missouri rivers.

The Cuban resolutions as passed by the House were laid before the Senate and referred to the committee on foreign relations.

ST. PAUL CHOSEN AGAIN.

G. A. R. Decides to Hold the Encampment There.

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 26.—Adjt. Gen. Robbins yesterday afternoon authorized the publication of the following paragraph from general orders to be issued this week:

"VIII—The commander-in-chief announces that the Chicago & Great Western railway, having granted the time limit of thirty days, in the territory of the Western Passenger association, and the Wisconsin Central, the Minneapolis & St. Louis, and the Sioux railroads having also agreed to give the same uniform rate of one cent per mile to and from St. Paul for fifteen days, with the privilege of a fifteen days' extension to those who deposit their tickets with the railroad agents at St. Paul before the expiration of the first fifteen days, thereby securing to all who may attend the same rates and extensions heretofore given—the thirtieth annual encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic will be held at St. Paul, Minn., the first week in September as provided in general orders No. 5, C. S."

THE GRANT MONUMENT

Will Positively Be Completed on April 27, 1897.

New York, Feb. 27.—The trustees of the Grant Monument association met yesterday. The officers were re-elected as follows: President, Gen. Horace Porter; treasurer, Frederick D. Tappen and secretary, James C. Reed. The report of the president showed cash on hand, $233,202, just sufficient to complete the monument. The structure will be entirely finished and ready to receive the remains of General Grant and to be dedicated upon the anniversary of his birth, April 27, 1897.

Settlers After Land.

Des Moines, Ia., Feb. 28.—Nearly 1,500 claims were filed with the receiver of the United States land office here yesterday for lands in O'Brien and Dickinson counties forfeited by the Sioux City & St. Paul railroad under decisions of the United States courts. The government will give preference to settlers who purchased of the railroad company, when it was believed the railroad had the right to dispose of them.

The Nansen Story.

New York, Feb. 27.—A special to the Herald from St. Petersburg says: Repeated telegrams have been sent to Irkutsk to the agent of the Russian telegraphic news agency which first sent out the reports respecting Dr. Nansen, to obtain the exact wording of the letter supposed to have been received from the explorer, of which the agent telegraphed only a vague summary. The messages, however, remained unanswered.

EX-GOVERNOR BOIES DECLINES.

Requests That His Name Not Be Mentioned for Presidency.

Des Moines, Iowa, Feb. 26.—The following letter from ex-Gov. Boies, concerning his Presidential candidacy, addressed

EX-GOVERNOR BOIES.

to a local paper, was received here yesterday:

Waterloo, Iowa, Feb. 21.—The kindly mention of my name in a recent issue of several papers of the state as a possible candidate of my party for the office of President of the United States seems to require some statement on my part to avoid the conclusion which silence would fairly imply, that I desire it to be understood by my friends in Iowa, at least, that I am not a candidate for that distinguished honor. Permit me to say to all who entertain a desire to see me thus honored, that I can not consent to be so considered. I want the delegation from Iowa to the next national Democratic convention to go there, not only as uninstructed but wholly uninfluenced by any considerations of a local character.

A SEVERE LOSS.

Cuban Filibusters Arrested in New York Harbor Do Not Quail.

New York, Feb. 26.—Among those who were arrested on board the steamer Bermuda yesterday was Ben J. Guerera, treasurer of the Cuban junta in this city. The money captured amounted to $4,000 in silver in four bags. The money was in Spanish soles and pesos. Tags on the bags showed that they had been put on by Handy & Harmon, brokers. Mr. Harmon said in reply to questions on the subject: "We are continually supplying silver currency of the South and Central American republics to exporting houses in the city in amounts of all sorts, and it would be next to impossible for us to trace the four bags the United States marshal holds by the marks which specify only amount and weight. The amount in the captured bags, $4,000 in soles and pesos, is worth in American money about $2,000, the sole being the South American dollar, and the peso the dollar of Central America and the West Indies."

A. C. Gonzalez, a lawyer connected with the junta, estimated that the expedition had cost about $100,000. The Cubans, he said, were by no means discouraged by the present disappointment in the carrying out of their plans.

ILLINOIS A. P. A.

Protest Against the Statue of Pere Marquette.

Peoria, Ill., Feb. 27.—The A. P. A. state convention was in session yesterday morning till 3 o'clock, and at the last moment, C. P. Johnson, of Springfield, was re-elected president by a large majority over W. L. Sackett, of Morris.

The convention yesterday unanimously adopted the following with three cheers and a tiger:

"Whereas, The state of Wisconsin has tendered the general government a statue of the Jesuit priest, Pere Marquette, and

"Whereas, The government has accepted the said statue, and it is the design to place it in the statuary hall together with that of the immortal Lincoln, stricken down by the hand of the Jesuit: therefore, be it

"Resolved, By the A. P. A. of the state of Illinois, in convention assembled, that we protest against placing that statue among those of American statesmen, and that the state secretary notify the Illinois Congressmen of this action."

The convention adjourned after selecting East St. Louis as the next place of meeting.

WILL NOT BE HELD.

Commander Walker Opposed to Proposed Blue and Gray Meeting.

Wilmington, Del., Feb. 28.—National Commander Walker, who attended the session of the Grand Army of the Republic at Newark, this state, yesterday, freely expressed himself on the proposed meeting of the Blue and the Gray in New York. He said:

"There is not a loyal Union soldier who would approve of such a thing. Loyalty deserves its reward, and treason and treachery should always be punished. There is a broad distinction between Union soldiers and Confederates, and so long as I am at the head of the G. A. R., this distinction shall be observed so far as this organization is concerned. I would not for a minute favor any suggestion that would offer to place Union and Confederate soldiers side by side in parade wearing Confederate uniforms, although they marched under the flag of the United States."

FAMOUS MAN'S FATHER.

Death of Samuel Edison, Father of the Great Electrician.

Norwalk, O., Feb. 27.—Samuel Edison, father of Thomas A. Edison, of New York, the great electrician, and of Mrs. Homer Page, of Milan, died yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock at the home of his granddaughter, Mrs. W. A. Poyer, after an illness of several weeks.

Mr. Edison was born in Nova Scotia 91 years ago last August, and in early manhood moved to Milan, Erie county, moving from that place to Fort Gratiot, now Port Huron, Mich., where he lived for more than 40 years. He came to Norwalk just before the holidays, stopping here en route to visit his famous son in New Jersey, intending to go later to the latter's winter home at Fort Myers, Fla.

CREATES FAT OFFICES.

Raines's Bill Which Will Pass the New York Senate.

Albany, N. Y., Feb. 28.—In a Senate Republican caucus it was shown that the Raines excise bill was sure of 32 votes in the Senate, which insures its passage by that body.

The principal features of the measure are: Abolition of all local excise boards on April 30, 1896.

Termination of all excise licenses June 30 next.

Creation of a state excise commissioner at a salary of $5,000, deputy at $4,000, three special inspectors at $4,000, $3,000 and $2,000; 60 inspectors at large at $1,200 and expenses for all.

A BIG STRIKE.

Garment Workers of Baltimore Are Out.

Baltimore, Md., Feb. 27.—Four thousand of the six thousand garment workers of this city, who are members of the American Federation of Labor, went out on strike today, and 2,000 more will join them before night. The strike is the result of the refusal of the Clothiers' Board of Trade to agree to employ none but members of the Garment Workers union. Those operatives who are members of the Knights of Labor are not involved in the strike. The strike is under the guidance of General President Charles F. Raychers, of the American Federation of Labor.

CHEESE AND BUTTER MAKERS

Demand the Passage of the Wilbur Bill.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Feb. 26.—The National Butter and Cheese Makers' association, representing every state in the Union, in their fourth annual convention, unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"Resolved, That this association demand the passage of the Wilbur bill now before the committee on ways and means, placing filled cheese under the control of internal revenue and a tax and license on the manufacture and sale."

Prohibition in Iowa.

Des Moines, Ia., Feb. 27.—In the House, this morning, Prohibition was killed. The constitutional amendment resolution was brought up and the vote was taken without discussion. The resolution was defeated by a vote of 41 to 52.

THE PEARL BRYAN CASE.

Crowds About the Court Compel Secret Movements.

Cincinnati, Feb. 27.—In anticipation of the arraignment to-day of Scott Jackson and Alonzo Walling for the murder of Pearl Bryan, large crowds gathered about the city hall and the jail early this morning. While the authorities considered these assemblages due to curiosity rather than to any conspiracy for lynching, yet they took the precaution to evade both crowds. It was accordingly decided to get the prisoners clandestinely into the common pleas court, before Judge Bookwalter, at 9 o'clock and complete arrangements for the transfer of the prisoners to Sheriff Plummer, of Newport, Ky. It was evident, however, with the crowds hanging around that the prisoners could not be quietly transferred across the river to-day, and all plans were abandoned.

At 11 a. m. it was announced that the arraignment and hearing on the requisition papers had been continued to a date that the court would not divulge, now or hereafter, to any one. Counsel for both sides, as well as the court and the officers, are anxious to avoid the crowds, and it is believed that they have agreed to have the case taken up at any time when there is no crowd or prospect of disturbance. There were people also around both the Newport and the Covington jails waiting to see the prisoners who have become notorious on account of the peculiarly brutal character of the murder charged against them.

Probably a Trick.

Cincinnati, Feb. 28.—The excitement attending the proposed extradition yesterday of Scott Jackson and Alonzo Walling in Kentucky, on the charge of murdering Pearl Bryan Jan. 31, gave rise to various sensational rumors. The most startling one was that the head of the murdered girl had been found in a dump on Walnut Hills. Reliable information now is that the head is not that of the victim of the Fort Thomas tragedy, but that some students from the medical college took the head of a woman from the dissecting room and worked a ruse on the officers.

There were no crowds around the jail last night and the crowds now seem satisfied that the prisoners will not be transferred when there is any assemblage in sight. The transfer will be made after a hearing on Saturday, when none but the sheriffs and attending officers know of it. The prisoners will not be taken to Newport, Ky., but to the strong jail in Covington. Although William Wood, the third prisoner, got out early yesterday on bail, he is still in the city watching developments. He will not return to his home at Greencastle, where his life is threatened, but will remain quietly with his uncle at West Lebanon, Ind.

Pearl Bryan's Murderers.

Cincinnati, O., Feb. 29.—Scott Jackson and Alonzo Walling, the alleged murderers of Pearl Bryan, appeared before Judge Bushwalter, of the Common Pleas Court, this morning. Both men were represented by counsel. At the request of the defendants the case was continued until Saturday, March 7.

NOT IN THE FIELD.

W. C. Whitney Not a Candidate for the Presidency.

Jackson, Miss., Feb. 29.—The Clarion Ledger prints the following letter from Hon. W. C. Whitney, of New York:

"New York, Feb. 25, 1896.

"To Editor Clarion Ledger:

"Sir:—From recent issues of your paper sent me by some friend I learn that Mr. W. S. McAllister has been circulating in your city among prominent Democrats a petition requesting me to become a candidate for the Presidential nomination of the Democratic party. In the course of the controversy which naturally arose from such effort on his part, he speaks of himself as one of 'the principal managers of the Whitney movement in this state,' (Mississippi). I desire to disclaim any knowledge of any such movement, whatever that may mean), and I request any friend of mine not to join it. It is doubtless intended in a friendly spirit, but has not my approval or concurrence.

"From the same source of information I learn that some persons have believed me a supporter of the view that the United States should open its mints to the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1, independently of co-operation and action of the other nations and in that belief have been led into a false position as regards their own principles. Under these circumstances I ought to say that I do not believe in that theory of finance, but consider it unsound, and if adopted likely to lead to most evil consequences to our people and their industries and prosperity. It is, in my opinion, fundamentally wrong and vicious.

"I am a believer in gold and silver as the metallic basis of values and of the world's currency, and I am confident that within a time not far distant, there will be a concurrence of the nations upon that subject by which the ratios of value of the two metals for the coinage and currency purposes will be fixed, and the stability of such values maintained by an international agreement.

"Until that occurs, I believe any action by the United States alone would be disastrous to us, would bring general ruin to our present prosperity and would hinder the true and final solution of the problem.

"These opinions I do not entertain nor express as a candidate for the Presidency (for which office I have already said I would not be a candidate), but in order that your people who have views differing from those may not be deceived as to mine.

"WILLIAM C. WHITNEY."

BROWN'S DEFENSE.

San Francisco, Feb. 28.—The Rev. Dr. Brown, after two months' silence, has given his defense to the public. The story is the most startling which has yet been told in the scandal. It was related as a confession to the ecclesiastical court last night by Miss Martha Overman, who is the first in the sensation case to confess herself a blackmailer. She confessed that she was a blackmailer and tried to be a thief and she gave the information with a smile.

She confessed that she plotted the destruction of the man whose hospitality she now enjoys. She declared that to save herself from work and the possible hardships of poverty she conspired with Mrs. Mary A. Davidson to ruin the character of the Rev. Dr. Brown and to blacken her own. She asserted that she approached the representatives of a morning newspaper with a hope of tempting them to blackmail the accused pastor. She drew her recital to a dramatic climax by asserting that she wrote the letters which picture her own moral and physical ruin and placed the cause of her deep distress at the door of the Rev. Dr. Brown. Asserting all this, she denied that there had ever been the slightest impropriety in her relations with the man against whom she plotted so shrewdly.

TO RECOVER WASHINGTON LANDS.

Department of the Interior Will Commence Suit.

Washington, Feb. 28.—Acting Secretary of the Interior Simms, yesterday requested the Attorney-General to bring suit to recover titles to 68,647 acres of land erroneously certified to the state of Michigan. These lands were granted by the act of March 3, 1865, to aid the construction of a harbor and a ship canal to connect Lake Superior and Portage Lake, and the department holds that they were designated as mineral lands before the passage of that act.

COMET GETTING AWAY.

Rapidly Increasing Its Distance From the Earth.
Rapidly Lessening Distance Between It and Earth.

Boston, Mass., Feb. 28.—At the session of the Boston Scientific society, John Ritchie, jr., stated that the new comet passed its nearest point to the sun January 3, two weeks before it was discovered, and that it is now moving away from both earth and sun and rapidly losing light, and about next week it will be only about half as big as it was last week.

Geneva, N. Y.—The astronomical society of the Pacific awarded to Prof. William R. Brooks medal for discovery of his latest comet. This is the fifth honor of the kind conferred upon Prof. Brooks.

EX-SPEAKER CRISP

Asks to Represent Georgia in the Senate.

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 29.—Ex-Speaker Crisp came out last night in a letter to the Democrats of the Third Congressional district announcing that he will not again be a candidate for representative, but will instead be a candidate for United States senator. He says it is his ambition to represent Georgia in the Senate.

New Jersey State Convention.

Newark, N. J., Feb. 26.—Chairman Franklin Murphy, of the Republican state committee, to-day called the New Jersey state convention to elect delegates to the St. Louis convention for June 16, in Trenton.

A SERIOUS FLOOD.

Rain Caused the Connecticut Coppermine Dam to Burst.

Hartford, Conn., March 2.—The great rain storm which has prevailed since Saturday morning caused great damage throughout the state. Many serious accidents, washouts and wrecks are reported. The Connecticut River is swollen to three times its normal proportions. A portion of false work of the big iron bridge at Middletown was swept away but the main structure remains intact.

The bursting of the old coppermine dam at Bristol this morning caused the greatest flood ever known there, and the estimated damage is over $100,000 from this alone. People living along the Pequaback River had to leave their houses in the dark and many lost all their possessions. Ten highway bridges were swept away, and the New England tracks were washed out in many places. A freight train ran into a washout near Forestville to-day and the engine was capsized. Seven cars were wrecked and one of the trainmen badly injured.

HUDSON RIVER'S BREAK.

Albany Partially Submerged and a Life Lost.

Albany, N. Y., March 2.—The earliest breaking up of the Hudson in 125 years was attended in this vicinity with much damage, narrow escapes and the loss of one life. The lower part of the city is completely submerged. A family of five was rescued from beds floating in the rooms. A nine-year-old boy was swept into the river at Lansingburg and drowned. Ice is piled 100 feet high on Barren Island and a gorge has formed at Stuyvesant. Railway tracks on both sides of the river were blocked by ice and travel cut off for some time. The water works building at Bath, on the Hudson, was shattered and the superintendent had a narrow escape.

FOREIGN.

THE DONS ARE RED HOT.

Spain Incensed Over Uncle Sam's Attitude.

Madrid, March 2.—If one may judge by the things that were said and done yesterday, the Spanish people are enthusiastically determined to go to war forthwith with the United States, and to speedily avenge the insult which it is fancied has been offered to the haughty pride of Spain by the United States Senate in determining to recognize the Cuban provisional government as a belligerent power, and to ask the President to use his good offices with Spain to obtain recognition of Cuban independence.

Some of the organs of public opinion declare that the bankruptcy of the Spanish government would not prevent the Spanish people from taking up the quarrel on their own account and fitting out expeditions and maintaining them at their own expense, while combatting the insolence of the assertions of the United States. The day has been characterized by many manifestations of public wrath and excitement, especially at Barcelona.

There seems to have been a notable increase of excitement and patriotic ardor among the people since Saturday, when the news of the Senate's action was first made known. Such a stress of feeling as existed yesterday, if it continues for any length of time can not but afford a serious menace to the peaceful relations of the two countries.

The Spanish authorities seem to have felt apprehension of the form the people's wrath might take, and provided special safeguards for the suppression of disorders and for the protection of any official of the United States overnment.

The authorities of the government are not all of a peaceful character, however. It is significant that the minister of marine, Admiral Jose Maria Beranger, has issued an order for the training squadron to be prepared to sail. It is regarded as

HANNIS TAYLOR,
United States Minister to Spain.

probable that this squadron will proceed shortly to Cuba.

It has also been ordered that all other warships available be forthwith armed and equipped and put into condition for active service. In addition to this, about 50 merchant steamers available for the government service will be provided with naval armaments.

The military branch of the service, a fresh expedition of 20,000 infantry and 5,000 cavalry will be equipped and put on a war footing, and will be kept in readiness to leave on the shortest notice.

In view of the excited state of the public mind the United States legation in this city has been placed under the special surveillance of the police.

Students Are Loud.

The student class seems to form a large proportion of the inflammatory element which is making so much noise. The students of this city are busily at work to organize a great demonstration to protest against the vote of the United States Senate.

At Valencia Saturday, all the students of the University paraded the streets and then gathered before the United States consulate, shouting "Death to Uncle Sam," "Viva Spain," and "Long live the army."

Senor Canovas Del Castillo, prime minister, has informed a journalist that the government has now sufficient resources for war purposes to last until the end of May, when they will ask the Cortes for a fresh credit. The premier also said that he thought further reinforcements would not be required for the present.

Last evening showed a high degree of popular excitement in this city in all public places. The bands at the numerous cafes made it a point to play only national airs, and evidently they could have selected nothing more to the taste of their usually gay and careless customers, for the patriotic music unfailingly aroused the greatest enthusiasm, all within hearing arising and standing uncovered while it was played, amid shouts of "Long live Spain," and "Down with the United States." If Hon. Hannis Taylor, the United States minister to Spain, had gone to the opera last evening, he would certainly have had a very unpleasant time. Evidently some persons thought he had done so, for they were waiting outside the opera-house after the performance was over, and had organized a hostile demonstration with which to greet Mr. Taylor. But, whether he considered it unwise to inflame the public mind by an appearance, or for some other reason, the United States minister did not attend the opera, as expected, but spent the evening quietly at home.

The government has issued an order prohibiting the various demonstrations planned by students and others, and is taken to mean that the government does not at all approve of the course the popular ardor has taken, and sees in it danger of complications and embarrassments for it in its present delicate situation.

It is understood that the Spanish minister in Washington, Senor Dupuy De Lome, has been instructed to make diplomatic representations to the United States government regarding the action of the United States Senate.

How Spain Would Fight.

The Imparcial says: "If things reach the goal which Americans desire, the whole of Spain will rise against the United States. Neither in the Mediterranean, whose entrance we command, nor in the Atlantic, will an American merchantman be safe, for we shall organize privateers on a great scale. We conquered Napoleon by guerrilla warfare, and we shall employ a system of privateers to overcome a trading nation.

"Americans are wrong to judge Spain by her budget. There are things which are superior to revenue. Some merchant captains have offered already to arm their steamers as privateers. A captain of Barcelona asks for letters of marque, offering to equip and maintain the fastest steamer at his own cost."

The students were summoned to meet at the university at 2:30 yesterday afternoon, but precautions had been taken and no disorder resulted, the demonstration being prevented.

The guard about the U. S. legation, so far as is seen, consists of only a few policemen, but a force of 150 gens d'armes is kept constantly ready in an adjacent house in case any demonstration is made against the legation.

In addition the authorities have tendered to Minister Taylor a guard of police at the entrance to his private residence, but the offer was declined.

STONED OUR CONSULATE.

Rioters Were Students, Fired by Speeches and Other Things.

Barcelona, Spain, March 2.—The fever of indignation and hate against the United States which seems to have taken possession of the heart of all Spain over the action of the United States Senate, culminated in violent scenes here yesterday, and an attack upon the U. S. consulate.

The trouble did not arise from the spontaneous formation of the mob which did the violence, but was the outcome of a public meeting which had been influenced by fervid speeches.

The public demonstration to protest against the U. S. Senate's action, was organized by the political leaders, including Republicans and men of all shades of political sentiment.

It was 3 o'clock in the afternoon when the meeting assembled, and there were

KING ALPHONSO, OF SPAIN.
Can He Whip Uncle Sam?

fully 15,000 people present, all in a state of high patriotic enthusiasm, and ripe for any manifestations of emotions which possessed them.

They were addressed by the orators provided for the occasion, and the purpose of the meeting explained as one of protest against the recognition of the Cuban government as a belligerent power by the United States Senate. The spirit of the crowd took fire and they set off for the U. S. consulate. The leaders who had originated the meeting seemed to have realized the serious consequences that might follow upon a demonstration that took this direction, and they made every effort to dissuade the mob from its purpose, but their utmost efforts were of no avail, and the crowd set off for the U. S. consulate.

The authorities of the city had by this time taken alarm and a force of police was sent to the consulate. The excited crowd was not intimidated by this show of force from gathering before the consulate and shouting, "Long live Spain," and "Down with the Yankees." These verbal missiles did not long satisfy the aroused passions of the mob, and in a short time stones were flying from the crowd, which broke a number of windows in the U. S. consulate.

The force of police waited for no further manifestation but charged the crowd under the orders of their officers and roughly dispersed them, wounding several. So far as learned there were no fatal results.

Being driven away from the U. S. consulate, the crowd marched off to the prefecture of police and gathered at the newspaper offices. There they listened to more fervid oratory and got themselves worked up to the highest pitch of enthusiasm and patriotic spirit. The military club of the city was also a center of excitement, and there were also glowing speeches indulged in to the honor of the army, which were eagerly listened to and greeted with loud cheers.

The majority of those who took part in yesterday's disorders are found to have been students, and they were most persistent in keeping up the disorders.

The police were obliged to charge the crowds again and again before they succeeded in clearing the streets of the rioters. After they were driven from the streets they proceeded to the governor's palace, intending to present to that functionary their protest against the action of the United States Senate.

The persons who took part in the disorderly demonstrations have clearly had the sympathies of the people with them. The onlookers from the neighboring houses cheered with great enthusiasm. Balconies and windows were filled with ladies waving their handkerchiefs as the students passed through the streets. When they arrived before the U. S. consulate they found a strong body of police had occupied the entrance of the staircase leading to the roof of the consulate. The riotous students tried to force an entrance here, but were repulsed by mounted gens d'armes. A lieutenant was wounded by a stone thrown from the crowd. The students publicly tore up a number of American flags, which they had purchased in the town.

TURBULENT STUDENTS

Suppressed by Energetic Rectors and Professors.

London, March 3.—A Madrid dispatch to the Standard says: The students of the university showed turbulent disposition all day, notably when they learned that police precautions had been taken. The energetic intervention of the rector and of the professors pacified them. The students of Granada, Valencia and Barcelona displayed a similar agitation which was everywhere suppressed.

The press is changing its attitude of conciliation, and the federal papers advocate an alliance with the powers to protect their common colonial interests against the United States.

The authorities continue to take extraordinary precautions around the American legation.

The fall on the bourse was specially heavy in the Bank of Spain shares and Cuban bonds.

The Standard's Paris dispatch says: "It is the general belief here that the resolutions of the Senate will lead to no practical result, save that of the appreciation of the wise provision of the United States constitution which makes the President and Congress arbiter of peace or war."

REINFORCEMENTS ARRIVE.

Gen. Weyler Now Prepared to Quell the Rebellion.

Havana, Feb. 26.—The steamship Buenos Ayres arrived here to-day from Spain, bringing as reinforcements the Wadras and Reina battalions of infantry. The troops were accorded a most enthusiastic reception and after landing were reviewed by Captain General Weyler from the balcony of the palace.

Another Butchery.

New York, Feb. 28.—A cable from Havana says: "A reckless massacre of inoffensive persons has occurred at Guatao, ten miles from here, and the country is in a state of abject terror. The people are fleeing from their homes in panic and in momentary dread of murder.

"The refugees report a wholesale massacre in their village last Saturday. It followed immediately upon the retreat of a small body of rebels who had met a considerable Spanish force at Punta Barara, and had retired after some firing. The insurgents withdrew along the road to Guatao, and without waiting to find any armed men, the Spaniards immediately began firing promiscuously, shooting down unarmed and peaceful citizens in all directions. They then proceeded to massacre the few inhabitants without mercy.

"The previous fight had resulted in the capture of five Cubans by the Spaniards. These five were shot dead on the field. These, with 13 dead found by the Red Cross physicians, who went to Guatao, make 18 altogether. The massacre was officially reported as a 'glorious victory' for the Spaniards.

Insurgents Are Bold.

Havana, Feb. 28.—The newly arrived battalions, Murcia and Luzon, have already reached Matanzas, and will be sent into the field against the insurgents immediately. But the new troops from Spain will operate in conjunction with battalions which have become seasoned to the climate and familiar with the tricks of the enemy, as it has been proved that this has a beneficial effect upon young soldiers. The insurgents have plundered the villages of Mantilla and Calvario, near this city, and their audacity is really astonishing in view of the strong force of troops in about Havana.

Major Corniaro, at the head of 150 infantrymen, on the railroad near Union de Reyes, province of Matanzas, has been engaged with a strong force of insurgents said to have been commanded by Maceo, Rebi, Morejor, Forro, Aguilera and Miquelini.

A large body of insurgents moving in the direction of the plantation of San Ignacio, while passing over a creek near Gunanbana, was fired upon by a column of Spanish troops which occupied a commanding position on a hill, surrounded by stone walls. Although the insurgents were about 1,000 yards away, they suffered severe loss, and left on the field a major and four men killed and 42 wounded.

AGAINST ECUADOR'S HEAD.

Expedition to Depose Gen. Alfaro Started.

New York, March 2.—The Herald's correspondent in Guayquil, Ecuador, wires that General Plutario Bowen has arrived at Tumaco and has issued a proclamation denouncing General Alfaro as a man incapable of governing the country and as a robber of the public treasury. General Bowen says he is backed by a powerful party, and that he will leave soon for Pasto, Colombia, to begin operations against Quito.

Dr. Rosendo Ordonez, a prominent and wealthy resident of Quito, was assassinated by Louis Andrade on Friday.

REBELLION IN LEON.

Rebels and Police Attacked by a Mob.

New York, March 2.—A dispatch from Managua says: News received from Leon states that a precarious condition of affairs prevails there. The rebels and the police were attacked to-day by a mob. The troops are without pay. The port of Corinto is closed to all ships. The foreign element is enthusiastic for President Zelaya. Many have offered their services and their funds. The troops are advancing toward Lopaz, and there will be a battle soon.

The Nicaragua Rebellion.

Managua, Nicaragua, Feb. 28.—The revolution is now in full blast and all the cities of Nicaragua on this side of the country are in arms, preparing either to support President Zelaya or contribute men to march with his enemies upon the capital, Managua.

The adherents of the President are not discouraged, especially as the conservatives of the city of Granada, concerning whose attitude as a body there was some doubt, have now declared themselves in favor of Zelaya. This means almost half of the battle won, for the city of Masagua will undoubtedly follow the lead of Granada. Thus with Granada and other smaller cities supporting him, President Zelaya hopes to crush the rebellion in due time. The support of the conservatives of Granada is not lukewarm.

Won't Affect the Canal.

New York, Feb. 28.—Mr. Warner Miller of the Nicaraguan canal construction company said:

"Such an uprising will not affect the Nicaragua canal interests. The United States government has always afforded us ample protection and all our grants and concessions have been given regularly by acts of Congress so that we have nothing to fear from any political overturning."

Managua, Nicaragua, Feb. 29, via Galveston, Tex.—There is great rejoicing here to-night over the news that has just been received from Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras, that Honduras will send 2,000 troops to aid the government of Nicaragua to suppress the revolt of the Leonists.

Trouble in Brazil.

(Copyright, 1896, by The Associated Press.)

Rio de Janeiro, March 3.—The political situation in Brazil is extremely critical at present. Nothing but storm clouds are to be seen coursing across the sky of politics of this, the youngest of American republics.

There are two powerful reasons for this state of affairs. First, the Jacobins or nativists, as the party of the late Marshal-President Floriano Peixoto is termed, becomes more powerful day by day and threatens to overthrow the moderate government of President Prudente de Moraes.

Second, the relations between France and Brazil grow more strained as each day passes, and it is anticipated that the Brazilian government will shortly be called upon to face the landing of French troops in the Amapa country, the territory which has so long been in dispute between this country and France.

STORM AND FLOOD

Brought Death and Destruction to Australian Colonies.

Victoria, B. C., Feb. 29.—The last week of January of this year will long be remembered by residents of the Australian colonies by reason of the fact that it had the most terrible gales and floods ever known on the Queensland coast. A large number of vessels were wrecked and entire villages destroyed, the damage ashore alone being estimated at half a million pounds sterling. The loss of property at sea was not so great as that ashore, but the loss of life by incidental marine disasters was even greater. Townsville, a small city on the northeast coast of Queensland, seemed to be the center of the storm, not a tow or a vessel in the harbor escaping.

The damage wrought by the hurricane in Townsville harbor alone is assessed at £250,000, this including damage to waterfront property.

ANOTHER MASSACRE.

Three Thousand Armenians Bit the Dust at Arabakir.

London, Feb. 28.—The Anglo-Armenian Association has received a telegram from Constantinople which says that 3,000 Armenians have been massacred at Arabakir, and that widows and orphans of those killed are in terrible distress from cold and hunger. The dispatch also says that Armenians of Sivas and Cesarea are in daily fear of massacre.

Forced conversions to Islamism are general throughout the Asiatic provinces.

PROTESTANT MARRIAGES.

Government of Peru Taking Steps to Register Them.

Lima, Peru, Feb. 28.—Via Galveston, Texas.—The government has ordered the preparation of a resolution, which will be submitted to Congress, providing for the registration of Protestant marriages. This is the result of lengthy diplomatic action in which the United States government and the government of Great Britain have taken part.

PERMISSION TO MISS BARTON

To Distribute Relief in Anatolia Granted Her.

Constantinople, Feb. 28.—An imperial irade has been issued permitting Miss Clara Barton, president of the American Red Cross society, and her representatives to travel in Anatolia and distribute relief to sufferers there. United States Minister Terrell accompanied Miss Barton and her party to Selamlik.

Concerning Korea.

New York, March 2.—A dispatch from St. Petersburg says: The Novosti, in an editorial, says that Russia will maintain the independence of Korea and that if Japan continues intriguing Russia may be forced to occupy the peninsula.

Japan must consider that if she wishes to acquire Korea this means war with Russia.

The Progress of Medical Science.

CONSUMPTION.

A SCIENTIFIC discussion of this dread disease, its cause, treatment, and cure, by Dr. Robert Hunter, the father of inhalation and most eminent lung specialist of the day. After a period of research extending over half a century, Dr. Hunter explains his perfected discovery of a specific remedy for consumption, and proves its success not only scientifically but through the grateful testimonials of his patients. Dr. Hunter was for forty years the sole advocate of the germ theory of consumption, which is now accepted by the medical profession throughout the world as the only correct theory—thus establishing beyond doubt his superior knowledge of this disease. Readers of The Blade can obtain Dr. Hun

WASHINGTON.

THE CUBAN RESOLUTIONS.

A Scene of Intense Interest in the House.

The Cuban Resolution.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The House committee on foreign affairs, after a warm session of two hours, to-day, adopted a concurrent resolution declaring it to be the sense of Congress that a state of war exists in Cuba and that the insurgents should be given the rights of belligerents and that it was the sense of Congress that the government of the United States should use its influence to stop the war if necessary by intervention and pledging the support of Congress.

Washington, Feb. 28.—When the Cuban resolutions were reported yesterday afternoon to the House by Chairman Hitt and read from the desk there was a scene of intense interest. Members crowded forward to hear the reading and the galleries were filled by the friends of Cuba. Each paragraph was vigorously applauded both on the floor and in the galleries, and when the intervention clause was read there was a scene of great enthusiasm. The applause was not confined to hand-clapping alone, but cheers rent the air. The spirit which had actuated the foreign affairs committee appeared to instantly take possession of the capitol. The resolutions are regarded as the strongest and most practical of all the many expressions proposed in the two Houses of Congress. They are as follows:

Resolved, By the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring, that in the opinion of Congress a state of public war exists in Cuba, the parties to which are entitled to belligerent rights, and the United States should observe a strict neutrality between the belligerents.

Resolved, That Congress deplores the destruction of life and property caused by the war now waging in that island, and believing that the only permanent solution of the contest, equally to the interest of Spain, the people of Cuba and other nations, would be in the establishment of a government by the choice of the people of Cuba, it is the sense of Congress that the government of the United States should use its good offices and friendly influence to that end.

Resolved, That the United States has not intervened in struggles between any European government and its colonies in this continent, but from the very close relations between the people of the United States and those of Cuba in consequence of its proximity and the extent of the commerce between the two peoples, the present war is entailing such losses upon the people of the United States that Congress is of the opinion that the government of the United States should be prepared to protect the legitimate interests of Americans by intervention if necessary."

Those who voted in the negative were: Atwood, Boutelle, Gillett, Grout, McCall (Mass.), Moody, Simpkins, Walker (Va.), and Wright, Republicans; and Black (Ga.), Cobb (Ala.), Culberson, Elliott (S. C.), Harrison, Russell (Ga.), Tucker (Va.), and Turner (Ga.), Democrats.

The resolutions were adopted 263 to 17.

NO WAR LIKELY.

The Shadow Flitted Across the Sky and Disappeared.

Washington, D. C., March 3.—Notwithstanding the sensational reports which have been sent out from this city of great excitement in government circles, of a special meeting of the cabinet at Secretary Olney's house, and of the dispatch of naval vessels to Cuban waters all on account of the recklessness of a few students in the streets of Barcelona, the affair has not at any time been regarded seriously here, and has disappeared from view almost as quickly as it came.

As the matter now stands, the Senate has adopted one resolution and the House another. They mean much the same thing—the opinion of Congress that a state of war exists and that the President should intervene to stop it, and should give home rule or independence to Cuba—but each House has acted independently.

It is immaterial whether or not they ultimately concur in the same resolution, for the reason that the most they can do is to express an opinion, and this they have already done, by overwhelming majorities. There is some talk of an agreement between the two houses on one side or other of the resolutions, or a new one, but the matter may be permitted to drop where it is. The essential point in view has been attained, this being notice to Spain that the American people, through Congress, intend that the Island of Cuba shall have a free government, either through autonomy or independence.

The responsibility of future action now rests wholly upon President Cleveland, and it is where it should be. Mr. Cleveland is not unwilling to assume it, and when the proper time arrives he will act.

Spain Makes Amends.

Washington, March 2.—The Spanish government took steps very promptly to make amends to the United States for the outburst of mob violence at Barcelona. This action, and especially the fact that it was taken immediately on news of the affair reaching the Spanish government and without waiting for any suggestion from the United States, doubtless will tend greatly to relieve the situation and prevent a serious outcome of the mob's attack on our consulate. The intelligence of the disavowal by Spain reached the State Department early this morning in a cablegram from Mr. Hannis Taylor, United States minister at Madrid. The cablegram was dated yesterday, and says that the Spanish minister of state has expressed deep regret at the Barcelona affair and has offered complete reparation. The dispatch added that measures have been taken to accord the United States legation protection.

Later information shows that the cablegram from Minister Taylor reached Secretary Olney early yesterday evening when he was officially advised of the Barcelona outbreak in the following cablegram from United States Minister Hannis Taylor at Madrid:

"Minister of state has just called to express deep regret that the mob has insulted Barcelona consulate—breaking windows and offered complete reparation. He informed me that government on its own motion has taken every precaution to guard legation and my residence. I have asked no protection."

It is perhaps in part owing to these official advices that the excitement in Spain over the action of the United States Senate, leading up to the insult to the United States consulate at Barcelona, fails to find a corresponding reflex in Washington, at least in official circles, and almost everywhere the feeling is general that the affair is not one which must necessarily lead to hostilities.

THE VENEZUELAN BOUNDARY.

British and Venezuelan Ministers Negotiating a Settlement.

Washington, March 3.—It has been learned by the Associated Press that the British ambassador, Sir Julian Pauncefote, and the Venezuelan minister in this city, Senor Andrade, have entered into direct negotiations for a settlement of the Guiana incident, which involved the arrest of a British police official in the territory in dispute between Venezuela and Great Britain, the hauling down of the British flag and a subsequent demand for an indemnity upon the part of Great Britain.

It is impossible to learn to what stage this prospective settlement of the most important incident arising out of the dispute over the Venezuelan boundary has advanced, but there is good reason to believe that some definite announcement concerning the matter may be expected at an early date. As to the manner of conducting the negotiations, little information can be gained at this time, owing to the extreme reticence of parties concerned, but the essential point is that Great Britain and Venezuela, whose relations have been strained so badly that there has been no diplomatic relations between them for several years, are once more in a fair way to a resumption of direct communication with each other, and that a step has been taken which may pave the way to an amicable adjustment of the vexatious and threatening boundary dispute. When inquiry was made at the British embassy, Sir Julian Pauncefote said that it was impossible to make any statement on the subject. Senor Andrade, the Venezuelan minister, was equally reserved, although his secretary declared that the minister had had no direct communication with the British ambassador. This would indicate that the negotiations have proceeded through an intermediary, or by correspondence.

INTERSTATE COMMERCE ACT.

Supreme Court Decision of Vital Importance.

Washington, March 2.—One of the most important decisions ever made by the Supreme court was handed down today. It will put new life into the interstate commerce act and create a great sensation in railway circles. The power of the government to compel witnesses to testify or to send them to jail will be established by this decision.

The United States Supreme court, it is understood, will announce a decision in favor of the government in the famous Brown case from Pittsburg. This is an inter-state commerce case. Upon the decision rests the power of the government to regulate commerce. Heretofore the government has been unable to compel witnesses to testify. Thus its attorneys were unable to secure evidence to enforce the laws regulating commerce. Hereafter any man, No matter who he is can be required to give evidence, even if it incriminates himself. If he refuses, he can be sent to jail for contempt of court to remain until he changes his mind.

A witness, however, giving testimony against himself is by his own voice absolved from guilt and can not be punished, but his evidence can be used against his associates. This was the aim of the act of February 11, 1893, which was passed especially for the aid of the inter-state commerce commission. This act of February 11 is wholly sustained and declared constitutional by the forthcoming decision. It was the real point at issue.

The Stanford Case.

The Supreme court to-day decided the Stanford case in favor of Mrs. Stanford. Justice Harlan delivered the opinion in the Stanford case. He held that individual stockholders were not liable for the government debt of the Central Pacific Railroad Co.

VAN HORNE WON,

And Mr. Tarsney May Pack His Grip and Go Home.

Washington, Feb. 28.—At 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon an ex-member of the House became a member and a member became an ex-member. Such was the result of the three days' debate in the House on the Van Horne-Tarsney contested election case. The vote by which the Democrat lost his seat and by which it was given to the Republican was 112 to 164, 18 Republicans joining with the Democrats in opposition to the majority.

At 4:30 the vote was taken, first on the resolution of the minority of the committee to recommit the case with instructions to the committee to reopen the testimony, purge the fraudulent precincts and recount the honest ballots.

The resolution was defeated as above stated and the majority resolution declaring Mr. Van Horn, the contestant, entitled to his seat, was adopted, without division. Mr. Van Horn came forward amid applause and took the oath of office.

FOR FUTURE DELIVERY.

Supreme Court Holds Such Contracts to Be Legal.

Washington, March 3.—Justice White, in Supreme Court, read the decision in the case of Theodore Hanson vs. James E. Boyd et al, in error, affirming in all the essential particulars the decision of the court below. The case involved the validity of contracts for the future delivery of grain which Hanson claimed could not be enforced because they were gambling contracts. The understanding was that final settlement should be made according to the usages and rules of the Chicago board of trade. The court below had held that there was nothing illegal or improper in such a proceeding providing the original contract was lawful, which it had been found to be. This opinion confirms this view.

MILLERS WANT RECIPROCITY.

American Flour Mills Were Hard Hit.

Washington, D. C., March 3.—Mr. M. H. Davis, of Shelby, O., who is president of the Winter Wheat Millers' league, and chairman of the executive committee of the National Millers' association, says that the 18,000 mills of the United States have a capacity sufficient to consume in eight months of the year all the wheat grown in the country, yet 100,000,000 bushels of wheat are exported annually out of a total average crop of 460,000,000 bushels. One hundred and ten million bushels are annually used for feed and seed, leaving only 250,000,000 bushels to be manufactured into flour, which keeps the mills busy less than five months of the year.

Those 18,000 mills have an aggregate capacity of 120,000,000 barrels of flour a year, although the actual output does not exceed 55,000,000 barrels of flour a year. Mr. Davis says that it would cost no more to make 75,000,000 barrels, but they cannot get the wheat, and have no market for their flour. The profit on flour to the miller nowadays varies from 2 to 5 cents a barrel only. Mr. Davis says that 10 cents a barrel would be considered an extraordinary profit. A large number of mills have been running at a loss during the last two years. It has become a question of economical management and improved machinery even to pay expenses.

A large amount of flour was thrown back upon this country by the repeal of the reciprocity treaties in 1894, which was followed by a decided decline in prices, caused an immense loss all around and threw out of employment not only a large number of millers, but men who make milling machinery and barrels and paper sacks. The transportation companies suffered also, as well as the farmers.

The exports of wheat to the countries with which reciprocity treaties were made increased from 2,250,756 barrels in 1891, to 3,253,176 barrels in 1894, and then in 1895 dropped back to 2,726,558 barrels. The exports to Cuba alone advanced from 114,447 to 662,248 barrels and dropped to 379,856 barrels when the treaties were revoked.

The exports of flour to Porto Rico increased from 127,983 barrels in 1891, to 200,813 barrels in 1894, and then fell back to 118,517 barrels in 1895.

The exports to Brazil increased from 722,369 barrels in 1891, to 920,869 in 1894, and then fell to 775,426 in 1895.

Under reciprocity the duty on flour in Cuba and Porto Rico was $7 cents a barrel; since the reciprocity treaties were revoked it has been $4.16 a barrel.

THE PRESIDENT'S VETO.

House Passes Arizona Land Lease Bill Over the Veto.

Washington, Feb. 29.—The Senate amendments to the army appropriation bill were non-concurred in by the House to-day and the bill was sent to conference.

Mr. Lacey, chairman of the public lands committee, then called up the bill to lease certain lands in Arizona for school purposes, which was vetoed yesterday by the President, and moved that it be passed over the veto. The motion was carried, 200 to 38, and the veto not sustained.

PERE MARQUETTE.

Proposed Unveiling of the Statue Provokes a Flurry in Congress.

Washington, March 2.—The preparations for unveiling the statue of Father Marquette in Statuary hall, of the capitol, have evoked an unexpected flurry in the House. Since the newspapers began printing notices of the forthcoming event a few days ago members have been receiving many communications on the subject from their constituents, and on Saturday the opposition had representatives in the lobby to make protests.

Mr. Linton, of Michigan, who is an advocate of A. P. A. doctrines, introduced a resolution to have the statue taken from the capitol, and the matter rivaled the Cuban question in the gossip of the floor. The resolution was as follows:

"Whereas, For the first time in the history of the United States there has been placed in the capitol a statue of a man in the garb of a churchman, said statue being that of a Jesuit priest named Marquette, who died in or about the year 1675, and who is referred to in the joint resolutions as a reason for accepting the statue, as the faithful missionary; and

"Whereas, The revised statutes of the United States, section 1,814, provide only for not exceeding two statues in number, of marble or bronze, from each state of deceased persons who have been citizens thereof and illustrious for their distinguished civic or military services, and when so furnished the same shall be placed in the old chamber of the House of Representatives, now known as Statuary hall, in the capitol of the United States;" and

"Whereas, The said Marquette never was a citizen of any state nor of the United States, nor performed any civic or military duty therefor; and

"Whereas, The statue representing him is of ecclesiastical character alone, being dressed in church habiliments and paraphernalia, and otherwise entirely inappropriate for the position occupied in Statuary hall, thereby being contrary to the intent of the joint resolution which provided for its acceptance; therefore be it

"Resolved, That the placing of said statue in the capitol is not only without authority but in direct violation of the law; and be it further

"Resolved, That said statue be removed from the capitol and returned to its donors."

TO AVOID TROUBLE,

The Marquette Statue Was Quietly Uncovered Sunday.

Washington, March 2.—To avert any trouble over the unveiling of the Marquette statue which aroused the antagonism of the A. P. A., the covering was removed from the statue yesterday and will not be replaced. No arrangements for a formal unveiling had been made this morning, and Judge Lorey, who represents Wisconsin, concluded that the ceremony might be dispensed with.

There will, however, be speeches in the Senate Friday or Saturday by Senator Mitchell and others upon Father Marquette, and possibly some members of the Wisconsin delegation in the House will pay tributes to the eminent pioneer and missionary.

On account of threats to deface the statue police watch it night and day.

Washington, March 3.—The Pere Marquette statue which was unveiled quietly on Sunday was the center of attraction in statuary hall yesterday. One man threatened that if he got an opportunity he would place a bomb under the statue and demolish it. Extraordinary precautions are being taken to see that no harm is done.

A TRAVESTY OF JUSTICE.

Three Hours in Jail and $500 Fine for Killing a Negro Lad.

Washington, Feb. 26.—Elizabeth Flagler, daughter of General Flagler, chief of ordnance, U. S. A., who last spring shot and killed a colored lad named Green for stealing apples, yesterday pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter, and was sentenced to three hours in jail and fined $500.

The proceedings were the result of an agreement between District Attorney Birney and Miss Flagler's attorneys. An effort was made to keep the trial from the general public, and for that purpose Judge Cox called court half an hour before the usual time.

The district attorney said: "This is one of those unfortunate accidents which does not call for anything but the lightest penalty in the power of the court," and Judge Cox declared the sentence without making any comments.

Miss Flagler was driven to the jail in her father's carriage. She passed the three hours in the matron's reception room, in company with Gen. Flagler, and was then driven to her home.

THEY GO FREE.

Government Has No Case Against Cuban Filibusters.

Washington, March 2.—The government has acknowledged failure again in the case of an alleged filibustering expedition.

The steamer Bermuda has been ordered restored to her owners, the arms and ammunition which were captured on the tug Stranahan will be restored to their owners and the proceedings against the men engaged will probably be quashed. It is all due to the fact, according to Solicitor General Conrad, of the department of justice, that proof is lacking.

"There is nothing to hinder the Cubans now," said a government official, "from purchasing another steamer, putting men on board, and making another attempt to sail for Cuba. The United States cannot prove any object, and that is necessary in conviction. If the Cubans will remain in the path that the ffata decision marks out there is no chance of conviction of violation of neutrality laws."

THE ALERT FOR CORINTO.

Ordered to Guard American Property There.

Washington, March 2.—The United States steamer Alert arrived at Acapulco, Mexico, this morning, and reported the fact by cable to the Navy Department. Orders have been dispatched already to the commander to start southward again with his ship for Corinto to protect American interests there during the revolutionary disturbances in Nicaragua. The ship must first take a supply of coal aboard at Acapulco, which will consume a day at least, and the return trip will be made in about three days more, so that the Alert should be at Corinto about Thursday evening or Friday morning. Although no information is obtainable at the State Department respecting the reports to the department from Minister Baker at Managua, it is believed that the officials look upon the uprising as serious in extent.

LOTTERY ORDERS.

Batch Issued Against Pan-American Investment Co.

Washington, Feb. 29.—Postmaster General Wilson has issued a batch of lottery orders against the Pan-American Investment Company and the American Coupon Investment Co., operating at Topeka, Emporia and Kansas City, Kas., Fort Smith, Ark., and El Paso, Tex. This concern conducts bond investment schemes held to be a lottery. A number of its officers are also included in the orders and the arrests of the following for connection with the company have been telegraphed here: Thomas H. Bain, president, at Topeka; J. S. Henderson, at Pueblo, Col.; J. F. Day, secretary; Dr. A. M. Fidson, M. I. Foster and E. J. Holmes.

FRIENDLY TO AMERICANS.

Transvaal Government Lenient Toward Its Prisoners.

Washington, Feb. 29.—United States Consular Agent Manyon at Johannesburg has made a report by cable to Secretary Olney respecting the condition of the prisoners at that place. He says that the Transvaal government shows every disposition to treat the prisoners leniently and has been considerate and friendly towards the official representatives of the United States. Hammond and the other American prisoners are now in Johannesburg awaiting legal proceedings.

Raising the Lake Level.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 29.—The chief of engineers yesterday sent a letter to Congress recommending an appropriation of $150,000 for a thorough survey of the outlets of Lakes Erie, Huron and St. Clair, with a view to raising the level with dams.

CHICAGO BUCKET SHOPS.

True Bills Found Against All in the City.

Chicago, Feb. 29.—The grand jury today voted true bills against 282 persons accused of conducting bucket shop operations in Chicago. This practically covers every bucket shop in this city, 49 in all. The grand jury's action is the result of an investigation carried on by a committee of the board of trade and was made under the direction and by the aid of the body of public spirited citizens, known as the Civic Federation.

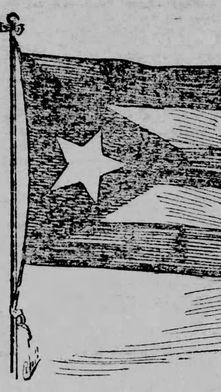
Gen. Merrill Dead.

Philadelphia, Feb. 27.—Gen. Lewis Merrill died to-day, aged 62 years. His chief operations during the civil war were in Northern Missouri, where he commanded a brigade known as "Merrill's Horse."

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE



THE FLAG OF FREE CUBA.

Three bars are red, two bars are white. The triangular field is blue and the star white. The combination is the red, white and blue.

THE SECRET OF A BEAUTIFUL SKIN IS FOUND IN CUTICURA SOAP

Sold throughout the world. British depot: F. NEWBERY & SONS, 1, King Edward-st., London. POTTER DRUG AND CHEM. CORP., Sole Props., Boston, U. S. A.

HUNTER WITHDRAWS.

Who Shall Be the Candidate in Kentucky Now

Frankfort, Ky., March 2.—A movement is on foot to give Hunter a full vote today as a farewell compliment from his friends in the general assembly. The ballot for Hunter is intended to promote harmony and alleviate the disappointment of Dr. Hunter's friends. Representative Lyons is heading the movement. It is said now that the sudden termination of Hunter's race was caused by his violation of the eleventh commandment of politics, "Thou shalt not get caught." The facts in the case are simply these, and are official:

In order to capture the two Populist votes he signed an agreement which too many interpreted as a declaration for free silver, but which Hunter explains as really his interpretation of the Republican platform of 1892. Hunter's "mental reservation" in connection with the famous and dangerous slip of paper did not satisfy the sound money Republicans and he had to step aside.

Nearly every member of the general assembly demands that a single gold standard man be nominated.

From all indications Congressman Lewis is the strongest candidate, but he must declare in favor of the state platform and sound money in the most emphatic terms. He will do this.

The members are considering things coolly and will eliminate individual preference and dislike from the question of selecting a candidate, and act for the good of the party and the perpetuation of sound money. A candidate who can harmonize all the elements in the party will be named.

KEELY BARES HIS SECRETS.

Decides to Apply for Patents on His Invention.

Philadelphia, March 3.—The Keely Motor Company held a meeting yesterday, when it was announced that the mysterious inventor, John W. Keely now wants to have his supposed discoveries patented. For more than 30 years he has absolutely refused to secure any patents on any of his inventions. A committee consisting of three members of the board—Charles B. Collier, Harrison Snyder and Lancaster Thomas—were appointed to formulate a plan of reorganization of the Keely Motor Company, which was to be submitted to Mr. Keely. These people say his vibratory engine will soon be on the market if Keely hurries up his patents.

TWO FATALLY INJURED.

Boiler Explosion Destroyed Valuable Property.

Danbury, Conn., March 3.—By a boiler explosion in Parks Bros' fur cutting establishment, to-day, a fire was caused, which did damage amounting to fully $200,000, and resulted in fatal injuries to two men. Edward Parks, one of the proprietors, was thrown down by the explosion, and frightfully burned. He may die. Sadie Carpenter, a tenant, jumped from a window, and broke her thigh. Frank Eastwood, a fireman, was buried beneath a falling wall and fatally injured. There are rumors that two children are missing, but the reports can not be verified.

BIG BRIDGE COLLAPSED.

Caused by a Rise in the Mississippi.

Davenport, Iowa, Feb. 26.—At 12:30 yesterday a 180-foot section of the draw span of the government bridge toppled over into the Mississippi river with a terrible crash. The river rose five feet last night, and the movement of ice carried out the falsework that bore up the section of the bridge on which work was in progress. No loss will be many thousands of dollars.

The Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific road can not cross the river here for a week or more, till temporary crossing is built. Through traffic will have to be diverted to Clifton and Burlington.

LOOK OUT FOR THE BALLOON.

Professor Andree Will Start for the North Pole in July.

San Francisco, March 3.—Henry Lund, consul of Norway and Sweden, has received an official communication from the Swedish minister at Washington calling his attention to the fact that Prof. Andree will start in his balloon in July next to attempt to reach the North pole. The purpose of the communication was to ask the good offices of Consul Lund in spreading the news northward, so as to apprise the natives to be not only on the lookout for the expedition, but should the descent be made among them, to treat the voyagers kindly and render them what aid they can.

BLOW AT TOBACCO TRUST.

Cut of Three Cents Per Pound Made on Plug Tobacco.

Chicago, March 3.—An opening gun, expected to precipitate war in the tobacco trade, has been fired by one of the leading anti-trust concerns. Every tobacco jobber in the country, which in Chicago includes the wholesale grocery houses, has been advised by mail of a cut of 3 cents a pound in the price of one of the many brands of plug tobacco. The cut was made in such a way that it is plainly the design to undermine the price of the trust's cigarettes or supplant them with anti-trust goods of a similar sort.

KILLED HIS SWEETHEART

And Then Suicided Because She Rejected Him.

Chicago, Feb. 28.—The dead bodies of Flora Larbig, seventeen years old, and Edward Peters, nineteen years old, were found to-day in the basement of the building at 350 West Fourteenth street, where Peters lived. Both bodies were cold and the murder and suicide, for such it appeared to be, had evidently been committed some time last night. Peters had been out of work for some time and despondency over this and rejection by Miss Larbig were, it is believed, the causes that drove him to the crime.

MRS. CODY'S BODY FOUND

In the Outskirts of Tacoma With a Bullet Hole in Her Temple.

Tacoma, Wash., March 3.—The body of Mrs. A. B. Cody, which has been missing for a month and for which the whole coast has been searching, was found yesterday in the brush in the outskirts of this city. The body was in a kneeling posture with a bullet-hole in the right temple and a revolver in the right hand. Her husband gave up the search Friday and started for his home in Chicago.

CLEVELAND'S POSITION.

He Will Soon Write a Letter Saying That He is Out of It.

Louisville, Ky., March 3.—O. O. Staley, the well-known Washington correspondent, telegraphs the Courier Journal as follows:

President Cleveland will not be a candidate to succeed himself. At the first public movement of any of his friends to advocate his nomination he will write a letter stating his position.

HARRISON'S WEDDING.

The Ex-President Unbosoms Himself to a Newspaper Man.

New York, March 3.—Ex-President Harrison said to a Commercial Advertiser reporter to-day that his marriage with Mrs. Dimmick will take place on April 6, in St. Thomas' church, this city. The rector of that church, the Rev. Dr. John Wesley Brown, will officiate.

IT IS MADE PUBLIC.

Lord Dunraven's Letter Resigning His Honorary Membership.

New York, Feb. 27.—Lord Dunraven's letter to Secretary Oddie, of the New York Yacht Club, resigning his honorary membership in that organization, is made public to-day. The letter, which is dated February 19, states that this course is taken in view of the motion made by Captain Ledyard at the recent meeting of the club, that Lord Dunraven be expelled because of the allegations he had made against members of the club, but which he had not substantiated. In another letter dated February 12 and addressed to the Hon. F. J. Phelps, which is published in connection with the letter to Mr. Oddie, Lord Dunraven explained that he was satisfied with the conclusions of the committee which had investigated his charges about the management of the yacht Defender, and that he had also written a personal letter to Mr. Iselin disavowing any intention to reflect upon him in any way.

DANGLING IN THE AIR.

Wichita Falls Bank Robbers Lynched by Citizens.

Wichita Falls, Tex., Feb. 27.—At 8:30 last night a mob of several thousand persons attacked the jail where Foster Crawford and "The Kid" were confined. After a show of resistance on the part of the authorities, the mob battered down the jail doors and forcibly took possession of the prisoners. The two men were taken to the bank which they attempted to rob Tuesday, and an improvised scaffold was erected. The first impulse of the half-crazed mob was to burn the prisoners, but calmer counsel prevailed. Both were hung. The Kid gave his name as Younger Lewis, and died game.

FOR SOUND MONEY.

New York Chamber of Commerce Wants Co-Operation.

New York, Feb. 27.—The sound money committee of the chamber of commerce held a private meeting yesterday. There was a discussion of financial problems, and at its conclusion resolutions were adopted in favor of the maintenance of the standard of value and against the free coinage of silver, and inviting all commercial bodies to co-operate in the movement to secure the adoption by the national conventions of both great political parties unequivocal declarations to that end.

FIRE TAKES A LIFE.

Big Row of Tenements in Duluth Destroyed.

Duluth, Minn., Feb. 29.—One life is known to have been lost and it is thought four other persons are buried in the ruins of the O'Brien and Knowlton block which burned at an early hour this morning.

The upper stories of the block were used as tenements and a large number of people lived there. Paul J. Boolwien, a carpet layer, was badly burned and was taken down a ladder in a pitiable condition. His wife endeavored to escape by the stairway, but she perished in the flames.

RUINED HER HOME.

And Now the Drunkard's Wife Seeks Reparation.

Columbus, O., Feb. 29.—Mrs. Agnes Bentz has brought suit in the Common Pleas court against John and Mary Ritzman for $10,000 damages, for selling her husband intoxicating liquor when warned not to do so. She says her husband is a painter and paper hanger, and when he used to work at his trade he earned $75 per month, but because of the persistence of the defendants in selling him liquor and harboring him about their premises he has become an habitual drunkard and neglected his business, so that he no longer cares or provides for his family of wife and five children.

TO FIGHT THE TURK.

Armenians in American Towns Drilling in Military Tactics.

Waukegan, Ill., Feb. 28.—Over 100 Armenians reside here. They work in the Washburn & Moen wire mill. All of them have been lately more or less bereaved by the killing of relatives or friends by the Turks and have been greatly worked up over the atrocities. Recently they have taken to holding weekly meetings at which they practice military drill. Their object is not made known, but the supposition is they are intending to go to the relief of the sufferers in Armenia. It is said many Armenians are drilling in Chicago and elsewhere with the same object in view.

THIS WILL BE NICE.

Nebraska Will Send Two Democratic Delegations to Chicago.

Omaha, Neb., Feb. 27.—The free silver Democratic state central committee met in Omaha yesterday to fix the date for selecting delegates to the Chicago convention to be held in Lincoln. This means that two Democratic delegations will go from Nebraska to the Democratic convention, claiming by all ordinary rules to be the regular delegation entitled to recognition. The other wing of the party has not yet met.

ADVANCE FOR MINERS.

The Agreement at Pittsburg Will Advance Wages 6 Cents.

Columbus, O., Feb. 29.—Secretary Patrick McBride of the United Mine Workers of America says the miners of Ohio will receive an advance of wages of 6 cents per ton beginning on March 2, as the result of the agreement between the employing miners of the Pittsburg fields at Pittsburg yesterday.

STEAMER WRECKED.

Was the Point Loma, and Her Crew Was Saved.

Washington, Feb. 29.—A telegram received at the life saving bureau states that the steamer Point Loma was wrecked six miles north of Cape Disappointment station, state of Washington. The crew and passengers, seventeen in all, were saved with surf boats life raft.

Indiana Prohibitionists.

Indianapolis, Feb. 28.—At the Prohibition convention yesterday a fund of several thousand dollars was pledged. The platform reaffirms belief in Prohibition and declares for woman suffrage, free coinage of gold and silver at a ratio of 16 to 1, and government ownership of national monopolies. It favors amendments to the national constitution allowing an income tax and the limiting of import duties to secure equitable commercial relations. Revision of the immigration laws and arbitration of international difficulties are advocated. A direct vote of the people for President and Senators is demanded. Liberal pensions are favored and the issuing of bonds to maintain the gold standard is denounced.

The following state ticket was nominated:

Governor—Rev. E. C. Snouse, Terre Haute.

Lieutenant Governor—J. G. Kingsbury, Indianapolis.

Secretary of State—J. E. Ellsworth, Decatur.

Auditor of State—H. C. Hansen, Hobart.

Treasurer—Sylvester Johnson, Indianapolis.

Attorney General—S. M. Sailor, Huntington.

Statistician—John Woodward, Rockville.

Reporter Supreme Court—Vinson P. Kirk, Plymouth.

Superintendent of Public Instruction—Cyrus W. Hodgin, Earlham College, Richmond.

An Elevator Fire.

Minneapolis, Minn., March 2.—Elevator A 2, owned by the Minneapolis Terminal Elevator Co., operated by G. W. Vandusen & Co., is burning, and will be totally consumed. The fire caught in the stair tower in some unknown manner, and quickly spread through the building. There were 1,075,000 bushels of wheat in the building, mostly No. 1 Northern, worth about $600,000. The spouts were opened and a great quantity ran out on the ground so that a salvage of about 10 cents a bushel is probable.

The building cost $250,000 making the total loss in the neighborhood of $750,000. There is ample insurance to cover the loss.

She May Get the Money.

Indianapolis, Feb. 27.—Mrs. Sophia Moore, of Shelbyville, has received a letter mailed from this city informing her that $24,000 was buried in 1869 in a lot in Shelbyville by William Green Wilson, a relative, now in a South American prison. The letter was given to an escaped convict. Search will be made for the money.

MRS. BALLINGTON BOOTH.

Jealousy of Her Success the Cause of Salvation Army Troubles.

Chicago, Feb. 28.—The Record to-day says: There are intimations that one woman's jealousy of another woman's success lies at the root of the troubles in the Salvation Army, and that the beautiful and intellectual Maud Ballington Booth is the thorn in the flesh.

Major Addie, of Springfield, commander of the Illinois division of the Salvation Army, and Major Stillwell, of Minneapolis, directing the forces in Minnesota and Northern Michigan, are in the city. A delegation of Salvationists met them on their return from the East, and plied them with questions concerning the trouble between the Booths and the revolt in New York. Major Addie said: "I don't know what the trouble is nor does any one else in the army but General Booth's immediate family. It is a family difficulty entirely, and, being that, we look for an amicable adjustment of it all when the general gets home from India."

Mrs. Booth Ill.

New York, Feb. 28.—Mrs. Ballington Booth is ill at her home in Mont Clair, N. J., as a consequence of the recent worry in connection of the removal of Mr. Booth from the command of the Salvation Army in the United States.

Markets and Crops.

THE TRADE REVIEW.

Merchants Strive to Be Hopeful—Bradstreet on Finance.

New York, Feb. 29.—R. G. Dun & Co's. weekly review of trade says:

In some quarters business gains at the West rather than at the East, but there is no general change for the better, although hopefulness still predominates. The want of sufficient demand for the products of great industries still retards actual improvement. Strikes of some important in garment making and kindred lines affect trade in Chicago and Baltimore, but there are fewer labor difficulties than usual.

Wheat has taken a flight upward, advancing 3¼c for cash and 2¾c for May, with rumors of foreign supplies as the only basis. Estimates of wheat in farmers' hands are lower than last year, but still indicate in the visible stocks a supply much beyond probable needs. Western receipts have been 2,351,171 bushels against 1,699,759 last year, and for four weeks of February, 10,709,144 bushels against 4,910,446 last year. In the presence of such receipts, Atlantic exports of 7,045,577 bushels, flour included, against 6,606,218 for the same weeks last year, have no real weight, but a larger movement hereafter is expected. Cotton has been weaker with only fair receipts, the important declines in goods having much influence. The price of middling uplands have declined a sixteenth, and preparation for a large increase of acreage is still reported.

The market for textile goods is still disappointing. Material reductions in prices of cotton goods have not brought out the needed demand, and further decline in brown sheetings this week to 4¾c, corresponds with reports that mills of some importance may prefer to arrest production for a time unless demand improves.

Woolen mills are receiving considerable orders for spring, but business for the future does not mend; clay worsteds are again a shade higher, the range for all woolens is scarcely 1 per cent higher than a year ago, although wool is more than five per cent higher, and a good many mills are closing or reducing time. Prices are still unchanged, as the demands of foreign manufacturers keep prices up abroad.

Failures for the week have been 278 in the United States, against 270 last year and 50 in Canada as against 28 last year.

Bradstreet on Finance.

Bradstreet says: The market this week was dull and reactionary, but without any large decline except in special cases up to Friday, when it broke rather sharply on somewhat indefinite features that the Cuban question might lead to trouble with Spain. The recession appeared natural in view of the professional character of the preceding advance, and the failure to attract any large public buying either here or in London. The foreign influences have, indeed, been adverse.

SITUATION IN IRON.

Iron Trade Review Says It Resembles That of Last Year.

Cleveland, O., Feb. 28.—The Iron Trade Review this week will say: The situation in iron and steel at the end of February is in some respects similar to that of a year ago—increasing stocks of pig iron, an unsatisfactory volume of business in raw and finished materials, with mill capacity only partly employed, collections difficult, commercial loans restricted and a general absence of data on which to base an estimate of the future. Two elements are found in the present situation that were absent at a year ago—a general disposition to hold prices substantially where they are, and a belief that within another month developments will justify present confidence in a fair volume of business for 1896. It is recalled that it was not until later March and early April of 1895 that buying started in any significant way and while the very fact of last year's boom with its disagreeable sequel, is considered sufficient guarantee against its recurrence, there is a feeling of comparative hopefulness.

REVIEW OF WEEK'S BUSINESS

OFFICE OF THE WEEKLY BLADE,
Toledo, O., March 2, 1896.

The following shows changes in government bonds during the past week:

	March 2.	Feb. 23.
U. S. 4's (new) coupon	116½	117½
U. S. 4's (new) registered	116½	117½
U. S. 5's coupons	113	113½
U. S. 5's registered	113	113½
U. S. 4's coupons	109½	110
U. S. 4's registered	109½	110
U. S. 2's registered	96½	96½
Pacific 6's of '95	102	102

Condition of the Grain Market at the Close To-Day.

The markets for wheat to-day opened at a fractional advance, the factors of strength being favorable cables and light Northwestern receipts. But there was a lack of energy in the buying, and prices fell off. Points of weakness in the trade were light exports at San Francisco, with a poor outlook for improvement, and nothing doing at Minneapolis. The close there was considerable weakness, and on last sales there was a shade better tone. Trade during the day was only fair.

Export clearances to-day: Wheat, 39,000 bushels, flour, 34,492 bbls., or, wheat and flour as wheat, 195,207 bushels.

Primary receipts to-day: Wheat, 322,000 bushels against 296,000 for corresponding day last year. Corn receipts, 462,000 bushels, as compared with 253,000 a year ago.

Prices of wheat to-day:

May	Opened.	Highest.	Lowest.	Close.
Toledo	75	75	74¾	74
Chicago	67¾	67¾	66¾	66¾
New York	73¾	73¾	72¾	73
St. Louis	67¾	67¾	66¾	66¾

March wheat at Chicago, 66c nominal; July 67¾c, then 66¾@67c. At New York July wheat opened at 72¾c, rose to 73c bid, fell to 72¾c, then stood at 72¾c bid.

Receipts of wheat cars in the Northwest to-day, 366; same day last year, 167 cars. Liverpool wheat closed unchanged to ½d higher; futures, ½d lower. Corn, spot and futures ½d lower.

Paris wheat and flour, 10 centimes lower. Berlin, ¼ mark higher.

Pork at Chicago for May, $9.90; close $8.85@8.87.

Oats for March at Chicago, 19¾c; May 21@21¼c.

Estimated receipts at Chicago for to-morrow: Wheat, cars, 75; corn, 400; oats, 200.

Corn was easy on continued good receipts although the quantities were not wide. On concluding sales prices were a little firmer. At Chicago March corn was worth 28½c; May, 30¾c, 30⅝c, then 30¾c; July, 31½c; close, 31¾@31¼c. At New York May corn opened at 35½c and eased to 35¾c July, 31½c, close, 37¾c nominal.

The Close at Toledo—Wheat Lower.

As compared with yesterday, cash wheat is 1c, May 5c, and July 5c lower. Trade fair, and prices closed weak.

No. 2 soft red wheat, 73½c; No. 3 soft red, 72c.

May wheat, 75c, and finally 74¾c; July